

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

Stars...
John Hennessy reports from Sarajevo as Torvill and Dean begin their quest for Olympic gold in the ice dance contest.

of David
How will the crisis in Lebanon affect Israel's foreign policy?

Christopher Walker analyses the reaction in Jerusalem.

Union...
Woodrow Wyatt argues in favour of postal ballots for all union members.

and Confederacy
Saturday section includes a guided tour around the civil war sites of the deep south in the US.

Plumbing...
The latest designs in bathroom fittings.

the depths
How swimming pools have caught up with the leisure boom.

Miners call for blockade of imports

Miners' leaders are to ask five transport unions to impose a blockade of coal imports, in an attempt to intensify the 14-week pit overtime ban. A conference of unions representing the train drivers, railwaymen, seamen, steelworkers and transport and general workers will organize the ban

Page 2

MP resigns from committee

Mr John Gorst, Conservative MP for Hendon North, has resigned as an unofficial leader of the Tory MPs on the Commons committee investigating the GCHQ ban on union membership after complaining about excessive pressure from the whips.

Space docking

The Soviet spacecraft Soyuz T10 docked with the orbiting Salyut Station 7. Approach stages were controlled automatically, while docking was done by the Soyuz crew.

Shuttle setback, page 8

'Resign' call

Mr Enoch Powell called for the resignation of Mr James Prior, the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, over the report into the Maze prison break-out. Parliament, page 4

TV-am warning

The commercial television network will be without a breakfast station for up to a year in the event of TV-am collapsing.

Page 2

Cut likely to be short-lived

British civilians to leave Beirut as chaos grows

- British residents in west Beirut have been told to go to the embassy along the coast to be evacuated by helicopter.
- In the Commons, Mrs Thatcher defended the decision to withdraw the troops before rescuing British subjects (Page 8).
- America last night resumed its massive naval bombardment of Druze artillery positions in the mountains east of Beirut.

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

As the civil war between Muslim militiamen and Christian Phalangists intensified along the front line in Beirut yesterday, more than 150 British residents in the western sector of the city were told to gather outside their embassy on the Mediterranean coastline today. They are to be evacuated by helicopter, either to a British ship or north to the Christian-held port of Jounieh.

The International Red Cross, meanwhile, made several appeals for oxygen to be brought across the front line to hospitals in West Beirut, and announced that it was trying to rescue 2,000 Lebanese civilians who have been trapped - half of them for a week in cellars - in the Druze held in the centre of the capital.

After dark last night the Americans resumed their massive naval barrage against the Druze-held mountains east of Beirut. Firing after the Christian sector of Beirut had itself come under bombardment, the destroyer *Moosbrugger* began shooting at what the Americans described as artillery positions in the hills with five-inch shells, while gunfire from Phalangist artillery and Christian units of

Plants for a British evacuation had earlier been delayed by bad seas that forced the Greek ferryboat *Sol Georgios*, which was to have taken evacuees to Cyprus, to anchor off Jounieh overnight.

The 150 Britons, only a fraction of the thousand or so British subjects in Beirut, have been told to bring only one suitcase with them to the seafaring Corniche. A telex message from the Embassy, which still has no telephone lines, added bluntly: 'No pets or weapons will be permitted.'

Continued on back page, col 5

Reagan loses credibility over withdrawal of Marines

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Reagan, still refusing to break his holiday during a second day of American bombardment of central Lebanon and areas east of Beirut, yesterday lost critical political ground amid deepening confusion about the US military role and the timescale for withdrawing American Marines.

French and Italian government representatives in Washington last night made no secret of their disenchanted with Mr Reagan's announcement of the pull-back announcement.

"We could not keep up with what was going on, there were no consultations", a senior French embassy official said. "That is probably why (our troops) are still there."

Meanwhile Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary told a Congressional hearing that the US shelling of Syrian positions in Lebanon was to support the Lebanese army and show that the marine pullback did not mean a weakened US commitment.

He maintained the Lebanese Army had not fallen apart.

"Reports that the army has disintegrated are not only premature but quite wrong," he said.

President Reagan: Riding horses, chopping wood.

Petrol price falls 4p a gallon

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Esso, Britain's largest petrol company, is cutting the price of four-star petrol by 3½p a gallon from today. With the reduction in VAT, pump prices at Esso's 3,400 filling stations will drop by 4p to 179.6p.

The other leading petrol companies, Shell, BP, Texaco and Mobil, are likely to follow with similar price cuts by the weekend.

Esso, which has a 19 per cent share of the market, has led the price cutting at a time of high stocks and falling demand. Most petrol stations make about 7p on a gallon - have given the

remained steady over the past month and stocks have built up.

However, the period of cheaper petrol will be short. The industry expects tax-changes in the Budget to add as much as 8p a gallon to four-star.

Officials in the big four petrol companies have been predicting since the autumn that petrol prices would have to fall to below 180p a gallon this winter to stimulate demand.

Local price cutting has taken place as higher profit margins - most petrol stations make about 7p on a gallon - have given the

companies room to stimulate demand.

Esso had decided to embark on a national price cut rather than support retailers in areas where competition from the smaller independent oil companies has led to price reductions.

Other companies have been offering extra services like late-opening grocery outlets.

The likelihood of price rises in the Budget comes after oil company figures which show that apart from West Germany, Britain has the lowest petrol prices in the EEC.

English gamblers win Irish mansion raffle

By Staff Reporters

Six members of a gambling syndicate from Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, were celebrating with champagne last night after winning a £750,000 Irish mansion in a raffle.

The six, five men and a woman, held the winning £175 ticket in the raffle for Middleton Park, a 30-room stately home set in almost 380 acres of Westmeath countryside 50 miles from Dublin.

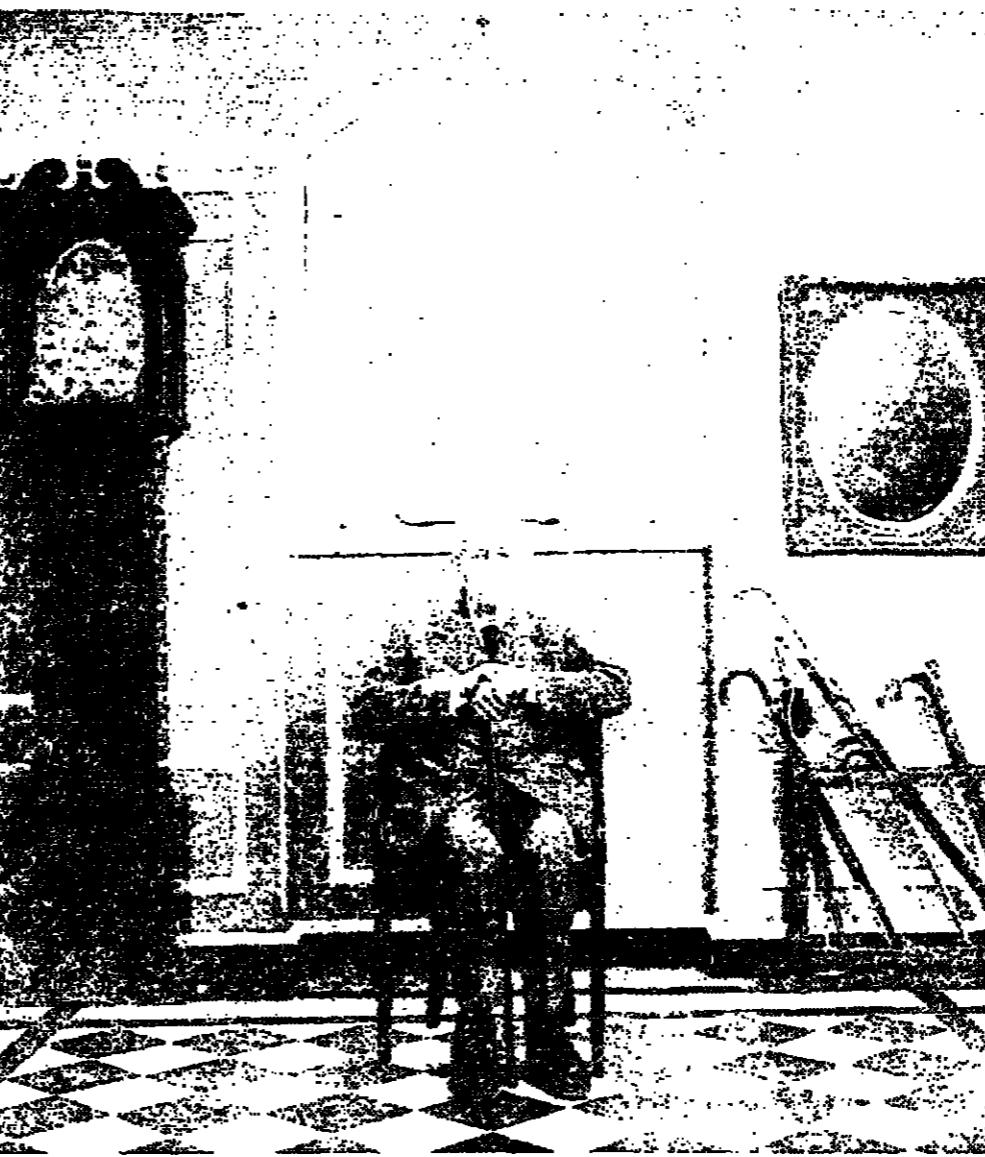
The ticket was one of 9,000 sold world-wide by a Northern Ireland professional gambler and racing enthusiast, Mr Curley, in a contest

The six members of the winning syndicate were persuaded to contribute to the cost of two £15 tickets by Mr Tony Ray of Bungalow Farm, Fiddington, Tewkesbury, who owns two businesses dealing in agricultural supplies.

"It's an incredible piece of news. I saw the competition advertised in a farming paper and mentioned it to the others who, I know, are not adverse to the odd bet now and again", Mr Ray, aged 40, said.

"Because of the odds we thought we had a reasonable chance of winning, but when the call came through my first thought was that it must be a

prospectus of the mansion, but Mr Ray is hoping to go to the Irish Republic within the



Mr Macmillan in a lordly pose for his birthday portrait by Patrick Lichfield

Macmillan gets 90th birthday earldom

By Julian Haviland and Alan Hamilton

Mr Harold Macmillan has been granted an earldom to mark his ninetieth birthday today. He is the first earl to have been created for 21 years.

It is also just over 21 years since he resigned and declined the earldom traditionally offered to former Prime Ministers in those days.

He told his friends he preferred to remain "plain Mr Macmillan", as he had always been.

The Buckingham Palace announcement at midnight said: "The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve that the dignity of an Earldom of the United Kingdom be conferred upon the Right Honourable Maurice Macmillan, OM."

Nothing was known last night about the titles he will take but his heir, Mr Maurice Macmillan, will become the honorary bearer of his secondary title, a viscount.

There remain only two former Prime Ministers who are still plain master - Edward Heath and James Callaghan.

Mr Macmillan is celebrating tonight with a private dinner party at Birch Grove, his Sussex home, for his family of three living children, 15 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren, and with a lunch party tomorrow for friends, including the three other living Conservative Prime Ministers, Lord Home of the Hirsel, Mr Edward Heath and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Oxford University has invited him as Chancellor to a private dinner party in the grand hall of his own old college, Balliol, next week.

Mr Macmillan, grandson of the Scotsman from the Isle of Arran who founded the family publishing house, was born in London in 1894, when Queen Victoria was still three years from her diamond jubilee, and less than a month before Gladstone's retirement from his fourth and final tenure of office.

He is within reach of a record for prime ministerial longevity - he has already outlived Gladstone by two years and only Churchill has claimed a longer span.

His birthday celebrations, however, will not include a display of his style as a public speaker. His eyesight no longer permits him to read, and he has only to rely entirely on talking books for the blind.

In addition, some pro-

Others 'may bid for Scott Lithgow'

By Staff Reporters

The Prime Minister assured anxious Opposition MPs yesterday that the conditional agreement for the sale of the Scott Lithgow shipyard by British Shipbuilders to Trafalgar House did not preclude other companies from making the purchase. But she said that time was short and she deplored the "apparent rejection" by the trade unions of a chance to retain 1,000 to 2,000 jobs on the Clyde. Yesterday the entire day shift of 2,000 workers at Scott Lithgow walked out in protest.

Labour and Liberal spokesmen in the Commons showed themselves deeply uneasy that British Shipbuilders might be on the point of concluding a deal with a purchaser which was not the best guarantor of future employment and not likely to offer the most favourable terms.

Mr Norman Godman, Labour MP for Greenock and Port Glasgow, said last night that he intended to question ministers on the proposed sale to Trafalgar House.

He is to ask Scottish Office ministers to ensure that any contract for sale of the yard, scheduled for the end of the month - take fully into account the high freehold value, put scores of millions of pounds of the land around the site.

He is also to ask Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, whether he will ensure that British Shipbuilders' judgement of the suitability of Trafalgar House as a buyer of the yard is not influenced by any penalties to which it may be liable as a result of delay in the building of a replacement vessel for the Atlantic Conveyor at the Swan Hunter yard on the Tyne.

Trafalgar House issued last night a firm rebuttal of suggestions that the conditional deal with British Shipbuilders had been rushed through in secret and that the firm might strip the assets from Scott Lithgow once it had acquired the business.

Scott Lithgow's assets have a book value of between £17m and £18m, but British Shipbuilders estimates their real value to be much less, probably between £2.5m and £3m. As well as the rick building yard, the company owns about three and a half miles of lower Clyde waterfront land.

Trafalgar House said: "We do not plan to sell off the land at this stage". But the company made clear that it would "cooperate" if another company emerged to take over Scott Lithgow's submarine work for the Ministry of Defence.

It is also possible that some of the land may be made available if an essential supplier to the yard was sort of space and able to employ surplus labour. "But we are taking over

Continued on back page, col 1

Hopes rise for tax cuts in Budget

By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, is likely to have considerably more room in his Budget next month to cut taxes or reduce public borrowing than has so far been suggested.

The public spending White Paper, to be published next Thursday, will show spending running only fractionally ahead of plans this year after earlier fears of a substantial overshoot.

The White Paper estimates that state spending in 1983-84 will total £120.3 billion, only £700m more than forecast last March. Last autumn spending appeared to be running £2 billion to £3 billion over target, and the Treasury raised its estimate of public borrowing from £8 billion to £10 billion.

The lower-than-expected spending overrun, coupled with more buoyant tax revenues than predicted, suggests the revised forecast will prove too high.

The Treasury now believes that the spending spree by government departments which began last spring has run its course. The £500m cut in departmental budgets announced in July has begun to bite and officials are clearly confident that there will be no repetition of the end-of-year surge in spending which took by surprise last year.

In addition, some programmes like the Youth Train-

Priority for personal tax relief

By Philip Webster Political Reporter

The Cabinet appeared to have reached agreement yesterday that priority should be given in Mr Nigel Lawson's first Budget to personal rather than company tax reliefs.

At their customary pre-Budget discussion, lasting about 90 minutes, ministers seemed to have achieved a remarkable degree of consensus over the measures which they believe the Chancellor should bring forward on March 13.

While the possibility of a small tax increase, threatened by Mr Lawson in the autumn, has clearly been removed, so too has the likelihood of cuts in income tax.

Ministers who have argued against the Government's setting out on a campaign of tax-cutting early in the life of its second term clearly believe that they have won the argument. But there was agreement that Mr Lawson should concentrate on raising tax thresholds to increase incentives and help workers who might otherwise be caught in the poverty trap.

Mr Lawson, who confirmed in the Commons yesterday afternoon that he is to go ahead and publish a Green Paper on public expenditure and taxation prospects into the 1990s, had earlier presented the Cabinet with an optimistic forecast of prospects for output and inflation.

His forecast that the economy was expected to continue to grow at an annual rate of about 3 per cent over the next 18 months, faster than many other European countries, was apparently one of the factors that persuaded ministers that he

VICTORIA WINE

FEBRUARY Wine of the month

Sankt Florin Liebfraumilch

The wine scoop of the year! An excellent Liebfraumilch at a remarkable low price, and exclusive to Victoria Wine.

Sankt Florin is a delicious, medium dry wine with a flowery, scented bouquet.

A real treat at only

1.79
PER BOTTLE
5% CASE DISCOUNT

WHITE WINE SELECTION MADE EASY

All wine is now at Victoria Wine.

we offer 5% to 10% discounts on all the wines.

Miners to ask transport unions to impose coal imports blockade

By David Fellow, Labour Correspondent

Miners' leaders have decided to tighten up the 14-week overtime ban in the pits by calling on transport unions to blockade on imports of foreign coal.

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Miners, said after his union executive's meeting in Sheffield yesterday that the overtime ban was having a "quite staggering" effect, with coal stocks at pitheads and power stations being progressively run down.

A conference of five unions - the train drivers, railwaymen, seamen, steelworkers and transport and general workers - is to be held in the next 10 days to organize the import ban, which Mr Scargill hopes will block the five million tonnes of foreign coal which comes into Britain a year.

He said that the general secretaries of the five unions had already given their personal support to the blockade and he believed its imposition would bring added pressure on the National Coal Board and the Government.

Coal is brought into Britain from several other countries, either because it is cheaper or because it is of different gradings for mixing in coal-burning power stations.

Mr Scargill said that the overtime ban had led to about

seven million tonnes of lost production.

When allowance was made for 20 per cent "degradation" of stocks which were unusable because they had been lying too long on the ground, 22 million tonnes were being held at pitheads compared with 31 million tonnes when the ban started, he said.

Mr Scargill calculated that on a similar basis, stocks at power stations had fallen from 35 million tonnes to 22.5 million tonnes.

Those figures are at variance with statistics issued by the board two days ago, which claimed that stocks at pitheads and power stations were higher than at the same time last year.

The board said that by the end of last month collieries had lost 23.5 million tonnes and almost 28.8 million tonnes was stockpiled at power stations. It also said that miners lost £51.3m in wages since the dispute started.

Mr Scargill said that the National Coal Board and the Central Electricity Generating Board could no longer hide the real position because the ban was "far more effective than anyone in this industry ever envisaged".

The blockade of imports would make it even more effective. He said that there had been calls from several parts of

the country for the dispute to be stepped up.

That would not happen for the time being because "we believe it is highly successful at this stage", he said.

Acceptance of the board's 5.2 per cent pay offer by the 160,000-strong British Association of Colliery Management would have no effect on the NUM position, Mr Scargill said, as the colliery managers had never in the past supported the union.

He also disclosed that he could, later this year, become president of a new Miners' International, bringing together mining unions from almost 70 countries. There would be a strong bias in the new organization of unions with communist backing or left-wing leadership.

A conference in Sheffield is

likely to be held in May when final preparations will be made for the launch of the new body.

The secretary is likely to be drawn from the French mining union, which is part of the communist-led Confederation Générale du Travail.

Left-wing hopes that Mr

Todd will be elected

general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union were boosted yesterday when Mr Alex Kitson, present deputy general secretary, dropped out of the race.

French coal losses, page 19

£200m grant to hill farmers

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government yesterday bowed to pressure from the National Farmers' Union and agreed to release nearly £200m in grants to hill farmers.

Payment had been held up since the beginning of the year because of the failure of EEC ministers to agree on reform of the common agricultural policy and on a new agricultural budget.

Although three quarters of the money comes from the Exchequer, and only a quarter from Brussels, the Treasury had feared that to authorize payment might be illegal under Community rules.

Before Mr Jopling's an-

VAT relief hint for charities

The Government is considering giving charities relief from value-added tax after a four-year campaign by charities for the concession.

After a meeting with Mr

Barney Heyhoe, Minister of State at the Treasury, a spokesman for the Charities VAT Reform Group said Mr Heyhoe had invited them to work with Treasury officials on establishing how much the move would cost.

He indicated that if at all possible we would be given VAT relief in the Budget," a spokesman said. "We are very pleased. It is the first indication that the Treasury is prepared to work with us on this."

The group represents more than 300 charities who estimate that paying VAT costs them between £6m and £10m a year.

Britons lease tax haven

The 24 year lease on the 50-acre island of Jethou, three miles from Guernsey, has been bought by British residents who want to remain anonymous. It was once the home of Compton McKenzie and has been owned since 1971 by Sir Charles Hayward, who died last year. Jethou is a tax haven, whose tenant is not liable even to Guernsey income tax.

88 orders under contempt Act

Judges at the Central Criminal Court have made 88 orders banning contemporaneous press reports of proceedings since the Contempt of Court Act came into force, according to figures released yesterday.

They were supplied by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, in a letter to Mr John Morris Labour MP for Aberavon, and opposition spokesman on legal affairs, who wants an inquiry into the workings of the Act.

Surgeons cancel trip after threat

The Royal College of Surgeons has called off a visit to Egypt by some of its consultants after death threats to the team were received in two letters.

Seven consultants, some of their wives and two college administrators were to have left for Cairo the day before yesterday on a annual visit to invigilate university examinations in surgery and anaesthetics.

Overseas selling prices

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Universities forced to treat A level grades as criteria for places

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

The shortage of university places caused by the 1981 cuts in spending on the universities is forcing academic selectors to put undue emphasis on A level grades which were not intended for choosing students for college.

In the annual report of the Universities Central Council on Admissions (UCCA), Dr Harry Kay, vice-chancellor of Exeter University and the council's chairman, says "fine shades of difference between grades" now have to carry more significance than was intended because selectors are forced to discriminate between well qualified applicants.

The number of applications and acceptances for last autumn presents "an unusual and unhappy picture" and reflects the July 1981 cuts in government spending on the universities, Dr Kay says.

Only 69,631 home candidates were accepted, 3,000 (4.1 per cent) fewer than the previous year and almost 5,000 below the figure in 1981, when the cuts were made.

More students last year withdrew UCCA applications

after accepting offer and achieving the required grades; almost 7,200 compared with 5,600 the previous year.

UCCA Twenty-first Report 1982-83 (Universities Central Council on Admissions, PO Box 28, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 1HY £1.50).

Home reading plea

Few primary school pupils are allowed to take their reading books home with them even though teachers know how important it is to involve parents in children's reading.

This conclusion, reached after a study of infants' and first schools, in which head teachers, the teachers of seven-year-olds and some of their pupils were interviewed, is published in the current issue of *Educational Research*. The survey also found few schools prepared to give guidance to parents on hearing their children read.

Three of the head teachers refused to permit their teachers to send books home. Five class teachers decided not to allow it.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother speaking yesterday to Hannah Norris and Damien Smith, both aged four, at the opening of the Swiss Cottage Community Centre in Camden, north London (Photograph John Manning).

Payment for armour is held up

By Bryan Appleyard

Nine months after he sold a suit of armour for £330,000 at Sotheby's, Lord Astor has still not received a penny of the proceeds.

The seventeenth century suit of Flemish armour made for Henry Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton, was sold last May to Mr Howard Ricketts, the London agent for Mr Ronald Lauder son of the founder of the cosmetics business, Estée Lauder.

The suit was sold as part of a £4m collection of arms from the Astor family's Hever Castle collection. That included a suit made in Milan for Henry II of France which fetched £1.9m.

Both suits were subject to export bans but the Milan suit left the country after it became clear that no attempts were being made to raise money to save it.

The Southampton suit, however, has been the subject of an appeal by the Armouries of the Tower of London launched last October.

The ban on an export licence expires on February 18 but it now looks certain that the appeal has been a success. A total of £372,950 needed to be raised to cover the purchase price plus buyer's premium, value-added tax and £5,000 for the agent's fee to Mr Ricketts.

"We are quietly confident" Mr Ian Eaves, Keeper of Armour at the Tower of London, said.

Campaign urges plain English on medicine labels

By Robin Young

The Plain English Campaign will shortly be publishing a report which is highly critical of doctors and drug companies for using unintelligible language on the labels of medicines and baby foods.

Miss Chrissie Maher of the campaign first drew attention to the subject three years ago, after a Derbyshire baby starved to death because its mother misunderstood the dilution instructions on tin of powdered milk. Several more instances of death resulting from misunderstandings of dosage instructions have come to light since.

Miss Maher said an instruction that medicine be taken "three times a day" could be understood to mean either four-hour or eight-hour intervals.

The campaign, whose offices are at 131 College Road, Manchester, M16 0AA, is appealing for information about cases in which people have misunderstood labels, and has already received more than 100.



The armour suit sold for £330,000.

Computers to speed house sales

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

A computerized conveyancing system to speed buying and selling of houses is to be developed by the National Law Library and the Solicitors Law Stationery Society.

The system will take into account latest communications technology after the launch of British Telecom's teletex service. Solicitors will be able to link their offices and pass information to each other and communicate with other relevant bodies.

Rapid communications with banks, the land registry, estate agents, building societies and others are possible, the library and society say, and are intended to be integrated into the new system.

Mr Christopher Hewitson, president of the Law Society, has welcomed the idea. The library undertakes technological development for the legal professions. The Stationery Society supplies computers and other specialized services to them.

The Law Society's *Gazette* has an article this week saying that solicitors should set up their own building society to meet competition from those who want to take over the legal side of house buying and selling. The idea comes from Mr William Heath, a member of the society's council, and Mr Edwin Lee, partner in a London firm of solicitors.

Simon finally made a brief appearance at the request of Judge Nine. Lowry so she could consider bail. However, he made no application and was remanded in custody to the traditional work of solicitors.

The two solicitors say the building society would have a big computer with terminals and printers in each solicitor's office. They say they are investigating the idea and hope the society will be incorporated by the end of the year.

Muggers who menace mother hunted

The police are confident of finding a gang of muggers who have attacked a mother and her children twice.

Mrs Sally Menyhart, aged 25, and her 21-month-old daughter Nicola were stopped near their home in Conyers Road, Streatham, south London, on Wednesday morning and cut, respectively, with a razor blade and a knife. Nicola was treated for superficial facial cuts and her mother for a four-inch stab wound in the thigh.

The police believe the assailant was one of two men who attacked Mrs Menyhart, Nicola, and her other daughter, Natalie, aged three, on October 26, threatening reprisals if the police were told.

Since the first attack she and her husband John have received harassing telephone calls and a dead bird was nailed to their door.

Wednesday's attacker was black, tall, with very bad acne.



Satellite TV costs disputed

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

A claim by Sir Clive Sinclair that he can produce the necessary electronics and aerial to receive direct broadcasts by satellite (DBS) for about £100.

Thorn-EMI and GEC-McMichael, which will sell their systems between £400 and £500, question the Sinclair figures. Mr David Wright, managing director of GEC-McMichael, said:

"We would be very surprised if at the launching of a satellite a complete system for reception in the home was available for £100."

The GEC figures are based on initial sales of 100,000; its confidence is based on the cost of the components in the receiving equipment. The antenna is metal and plastic and it

is principally the electronic "black box" at the back of the television which might be reduced in price through miniaturization and mass production.

The feasibility study was requested by the BBC but at Sir Clive's initiative, a Sinclair executive said: "We will undertake no major investment until there is a firm commitment to go ahead."

The BBC, which is still discussing a proposed DBS partnership with the IBA, issued a statement implying that Sinclair was planning to manufacture unconditionally.

House with added horse

By Our Property Correspondent

A Mayfair property dealer will give a two-year-old colt, valued at more than £5,000 to anyone who buys his £102,500 two-bedroom mews cottage in St John's Wood, north London, by March 22.

The man, who owns several racehorses, has paid the colt's training fees and expenses until the end of the flat season. The Victorian cottage is being sold by estate agents Benham and Reeves, who have offered to accept a share of any prize money in lieu of commission.

News of the World must pay libelled policemen £253,000

Ten police officers were each awarded £25,300 libel damages to each man for 28 days, pending a possible appeal.

The allegations appeared in a letter sent to the *News of the World* in June, 1978, by David Brain, a gunman involved in a siege, in which he claimed that his wife had been raped and beaten by CID officers and had been blackmailed to accuse him of the offences they had committed against her.

That, according to counsel for the policemen, Mr David Eady, QC, was to make and example of the newspaper which published the "exclusive" allegations in July, 1978 - for its "callous opportunism".

In his summing-up to the jury, Mr Justice Comyn told them that the newspaper knew the allegations were untrue, but thought that it would get more out of publishing them than it would have to pay in damages.

He ordered the newspaper's publishers, News Group Newspapers, to pay the damages and an estimated £50,000 costs, but he put a stay on payment of the

£25,000 exemplary damages to each man for 28 days, pending a possible appeal.

The allegations appeared in a letter sent to the *News of the World* in June, 1978, by David Brain, a gunman involved in a siege, in which he claimed that his wife had been raped and beaten by CID officers and had been blackmailed to accuse him of the offences they had committed against her.

Brain, who was besieged by police in a cottage, had two hostages, one of them his son, aged five. At his trial in June, 1979, he was convicted on several charges and sent to Broadmoor under the Mental Health Act.

Mr Eady said that in publishing the letter the newspaper saw the opportunity for an "exclusive" story with the ingredients of rape and blackmail.

News Group Newspapers denied libel. The company denied that the letter referred to the 10 officers or that it was defamatory.

Age of great exhibitions not over, RA says

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Royal Academy has rejected a forecast by Sir Roy Strong, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, that the age of the great exhibition is dead.

Sir Roy said that the Rococo exhibition which opens at the museum in May displaying arts treasures worth more than £15m will be the last show the V and A can afford to mount on such a lavish scale.

He cited the example of the Royal Academy's exhibition, The Genius of Venice, as an indication of the difficulties facing the promoters of large expensive shows.

But his remarks have displeased the academy, which says that it expects to break even, or possibly make a small

profit, from the 300,000 predicted visitors to the Venice exhibition, and has long-term plans to continue large-scale shows.

Mr Norman Rosenthal, the academy's exhibitions secretary, said yesterday: "I do not agree with Sir Roy's remarks. The age of the great exhibition is not over. It is quite easy to say these things but each event is a situation on its own. Exhibitions, like politics, are the art of the possible."

Unlike the V and A, the academy does not receive public funds. Its only public support for its exhibitions is a government indemnity which covers most of the insurance costs of works of art on show.

To help cut your energy costs, we've increased our energy survey grants.

We all know the importance of using energy efficiently in this day and age. For individuals. And for companies of every size. And for the country as a whole.

For any company, energy costs are a significant part of production budgets. But these costs are controllable, as many companies have already proved.

And measures taken to improve a company's energy efficiency have a direct effect on profits, year after year.

Because such savings are of benefit to the competitiveness of industry as a whole, the Energy Efficiency Office has increased the grants for its new Energy Efficiency Surveys.

Under these surveys, the EEO will pay substantial grants to non-domestic energy users who employ consultants to carry out surveys intended to help improve their energy efficiency.

These grants will be available for three kinds of advice.

For Short Surveys, which may identify areas for saving through simple modifications in procedures, grants covering 50%

For Extended Surveys, normally covering all aspects of energy use on the site surveyed, a grant of 50% of costs up to a maximum of £10,000 is available.

And for Combined Heating and Power Feasibility Studies, designed to assess the possibility of generating power yourself or in partnership with neighbouring companies, the grant is again 50% up to a maximum of £10,000.

Further information on the new grants is available from the Energy Efficiency Office. Cutting out the coupon will be the next step towards cutting your energy costs.

This new scheme has replaced the old Energy Survey Scheme. Companies who have already commissioned one-day surveys under the old Energy Survey Scheme must submit their grant applications by 29th February, 1984.

To: The Energy Efficiency Office, PO Box 702, London SW20 8SZ. Please send me information on EES grants and how I can make better use of energy.

Name _____

Job Title _____

Address _____

Tel _____

PARLIAMENT February 9 1984

All bids for yard will be considered

SCOTT LITHGOW

It was open to companies other than Trafalgar House to make offers to British Shipbuilders for Scott Lithgow. Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister said in the Commons during question time, but she added that time was short.

Mrs Thatcher deplored the union's apparent rejection of a chance to renew the lease when the union, 1,000 and 2,000 jobs at the Clydebank plant said that the hope for Scott Lithgow rested in getting the rig and possibly more of the yard into the private sector.

The questioning was opened by Mr Dennis Canavan (Falkirk, West, Lab) who asked the Prime Minister if he would accept the union's offer to grant the right of contracts to firms like Trafalgar House, whether it was for the building of a university in Oman or asset-stripping Scott Lithgow and throwing nearly 3,000 workers out of a job.

Will she intervene now (he asked) to ensure the job prospects of Scottish workers or is she only willing to intervene to help improve the job prospects of her own son? (Conservative protest).

Mrs Thatcher: The British taxpayer has paid £165m in respect of Scott Lithgow shipbuilding yard since nationalization. That is a large sum and meant last year a subsidy of £13,000 for every worker in the yard.

The future of the contract for the rig for Britain is in question. The government does not know about the whole of Scott Lithgow between British Shipbuilders and Trafalgar House. Discussions have made good progress.

A number of parties have expressed interest. Trafalgar House has pursued its interest and reached conditional agreement with British Shipbuilders.

Mr Barry Hendersen (North-East Fife, C): Those in Scotland genuinely concerned about the possible social and economic consequences of Scott Lithgow deplore the politically-prejudiced remarks from Labour MPs now that the possibility of averting closure is emerging.

Will she ensure that every step is taken to carry through the hope which now exists for the future?

Mrs Thatcher: The hope of Scott Lithgow lies in getting that rig and possibly more of the yard into the private sector and in a new management under totally new management. It can get rid of the reputation of not fulfilling orders on time and within budget.

If it goes into the private sector and makes a good job of the rig, it may get other orders and the workforce have a very good future.

Mr Peter Shore, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, would be confirmed there is not only one interested party, Trafalgar House, but Bechtel and Howard Doris have also expressed serious interest in the prospect of taking over the Scott Lithgow yard?

How can it be explained that the statement that no deal has been done with Trafalgar House with the statement by Mr Graham Day that BS had a moral agreement with Trafalgar House but not yet a legal one? That is a most extraordinary situation they had made an offer which was not accepted by the other bidder and therefore their negotiations were not advanced.

He could not understand the Opposition's objection to the negotiations when only a few days ago they had been calling for urgent action to secure the yard's future.

What the prospect was in view the Opposition complained things were going to fast.

He hoped that those workers at the yard who had walked out on the negotiations when learning of the negotiations with Trafalgar House, would on reflection decide to return and so ensure that there remained offers to be discussed.

Mr Lamont: Other parties are interested. These do include Bechtel and I understand also Howard Doris telephoned BS yesterday expressing an interest. Obviously their interests will be examined. The deal does require the Government's approval and the Government will wish to examine this extremely carefully.

Trafalgar House were the first company to come forward very much before other companies and therefore they are a long way ahead simply because they made an offer and started negotiations quickly. Rightly, British Shipbuilders, is a situation where redundancies appeared to be imminent on a total scale in that yard, responded and opened negotiations with them.

He says they have given no commitment to continue oil rig construction. He knows their interest is to continue to use that yard for the business of offshore construction and that Trafalgar House, through their subsidiary do have some interest in offshore industries and in constructing structures in the North Sea. They have experience.

The Government, British Shipbuilders and especially BS will be required to examine the technical competence and ability of companies to fulfil the contract.

Mr William Walker (Tayside North, C): The workforce at Scott Lithgow expressed at a meeting with me and Mr Albert McQuarrie (Banff and Buchan, C) that they would welcome any private sector coming in to retain the capability of the yard and in particular, the expertise of the yard. I would therefore expect

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Anglo-Swapo response to ceasefire encourages Pretoria

From Michael Hornby, Johannesburg

A *de facto* ceasefire is already operating in southern Angola and northern Namibia, and "a very promising climate" has been created, in which it might be possible to end hostilities permanently, Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, said.

Reporting to foreign journalists here on the response of Angola and the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo) guerrillas to Pretoria's January 31 announcement that it was disengaging its forces in Angola, Mr Botha said that, from South Africa's point of view, it was encouraging and satisfactory.

If nothing happens to disturb this assessment, the next step is likely to be a meeting between Luanda and Pretoria to discuss a joint mechanism for monitoring a ceasefire and investigating alleged breaches of it.

"We have in practice at this moment a ceasefire... and steps are being taken, I believe, both by the South African Government and the Angolan Government, to put into effect a ceasefire for 30 days, to be extended beyond 30 days hopefully," Mr Botha said.

What is not clear is to what extent Angola will be able to negotiate and answer for Swapo, which has its bases in southern Angola. The guerrillas have been fighting for Namibia's independence for the last 17 years.

Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, said on Wednesday during a visit to Rome that his guerrillas would observe "the so-called 30-day disengagement of forces provided that after 30 days there will be talks between Swapo and South Africa to sign a ceasefire".

Sultan of Johore elected King

Kuala Lumpur (Reuter) — The Sultan of Johore, a convicted killer and head of Malaysia's only private army, was elected the country's new King yesterday.

An official announcement said that Malaysia's nine hereditary rulers chose Sultan Mahmood Iskandar, aged 31, who has a penchant for wearing military uniforms and weapons, to succeed King Ahmad Shah, whose term in office expires in April.

The sultans, who elect a King from their ranks every five years, had been expected to choose Sultan Idris Shah of Perak, but his death last week threw open the succession question. Sultan Mahmood Iskandar, the ruler of Malaysia's

southernmost state, emerged as the most eligible candidate on seniority, and was selected in a secret ballot after a three-day meeting.

He is described by political analysts as independent and strong-willed. He was convicted of culpable homicide after a shooting incident in 1977, but was later pardoned by his father.

The man who will take the title of Yang Di-Pertuan Agong as monarch of Malaysia's 13.5 million people was removed from the Johore line of succession in 1961 for his erratic behaviour. He was reinstated as Crown Prince shortly before his father died in 1981.

The new Sultan of Perak, Raja Azlan Shah, who suc-

ceeded his late cousin, was elected Deputy King.

The election issue has dominated Malaysian politics since last August, when the Government of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, introduced legislation to curb the powers of the King and the sultans.

The rulers opposed the changes, setting off a bitter constitutional crisis which divided the traditional royalist Malays. The deadlock was broken in December with a compromise which left the sultan's powers intact but prevented the King from delaying legislation passed by Parliament.

What should have been a five-minute courtesy call on Mr Thomas "Tip" O'Neill, the House Speaker, turned into a half-hour discussion in which both men agreed on the need for swift implementation of President Reagan's decision to remove the Marines.

The Sultan of Johore maintains a private army.

Kinnock in talks with US leaders

From Our Own Correspondent Washington

The crisis in Lebanon dominated the first day of talks which Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour Party leader, held in Washington yesterday with representatives of both political parties at the start of his six-day visit to the United States.

Meanwhile the press and some members of the coalition Government have continued, openly and in private, to criticize the Chancellor's decision to retain Herr Wörner in his post. Significantly the Bavarian-based Christian Social

"It just ain't gonna work, Mr Kinnock"

Kohl attacked from all sides

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Herr Manfred Wörner, the embattled Defence Minister, testified again yesterday to the parliamentary inquiry into the dismissal of General Günter Kiesling, as criticism of him and of Chancellor Helmut Kohl continued to echo down the political corridors of Bonn.

Social Democrats called Herr Wörner's evidence on Wednesday "more than unsatisfactory" and said he added nothing to what was already known.

Meanwhile the press and some members of the coalition Government have continued, openly and in private, to criticize the Chancellor's decision to retain Herr Wörner in his post. Significantly the Bavarian-based Christian Social

criticism in Parliament yesterday during a debate on his recent visit to Israel. The opposition asked awkward questions about the presence in his party of a journalist who had worked on a Nazi newspaper and written an article attacking the attempt on Hitler's life. The Social Democrats accused Herr Kohl of ruining attempts to repair German relations with Jews.

The Chancellor spiritedly defended his determination to establish a balanced relationship with all parties in the Middle East, and said none of the weapons systems that might be delivered to Saudi Arabia threatened Israel's security.

Leading article, page 15

[ADVERTISEMENT]

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Illness delays installation of woman Governor

From John Best Ottawa

Hill has forced an indefinite postponement of the installation of Mrs Jeannine Sauve as Canada's next Governor-General.

Mrs Sauve, aged 61, has been in Ottawa General Hospital for several weeks, suffering from respiratory ailment, complicated by an allergy to drugs.

Details of her case have been kept secret, although this week she was described as having improved after being in a serious condition.

The former Speaker of the House of Commons was to have taken over as the Queen's representative in Canada on March 5, but will not be able to do so.

The present Governor-General, Mr Edward Schreyer, will remain in the post until Mrs

criticism in Parliament yesterday during a debate on his recent visit to Israel. The opposition asked awkward

questions about the presence in his party of a journalist who had worked on a Nazi newspaper and written an article attacking the attempt on Hitler's life. The Social Democrats accused Herr Kohl of ruining attempts to repair German relations with Jews.

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Leading article, page 15

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Leading article, page 15

Koreas to meet face to face on border

Seoul — South Korea offered yesterday to meet North Korean representatives for the first time in four years and give them Seoul's response to a northern offer of peace talks.

The Government said two officials would travel to the border village of Panmunjom today to deliver a message from South Korean Prime Minister Mr Chin Lee Chong to his newly appointed northern counterpart, Mr Kang Sung San.

North Korea proposed last month that tripartite peace talks be held between the United States and the two Koreas.

Bangladesh told to show officer

Dhaka (Reuter) — The Bangladeshi High Court has ordered the Government to produce a leader of a bloody coup in 1975 who disappeared last month after returning from abroad.

Retired Colonel Faruk Rahman, a former tank brigade officer, was a leader of the military coup in which former President Shaikh Mujibur Rahman and several members of his family were killed.

Lisbon protest

Lisbon (Reuter) — Riot police dispersed 4,000 angry shipyard workers who blocked Lisbon's Tagus bridge for nearly an hour, demanding the payment of back wages.

Eight people were reported to have been injured when the demonstration was broken up.

Appeals fail

Rangoon (Reuter) — The Burmese Supreme Court rejected an appeal against death sentences imposed on two North Korean officers for the Rangoon bomb blasts which killed 21 people last October.

Boy tortured

Moscow (Reuter) — Four men were sentenced to death for torturing and killing a 15-year-old boy while on a drunken spree in Khabarovsk.

Hawke's tip

Peking (Reuter) — Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, is confident that there will be a satisfactory outcome to the Sino-British talks on the future of Hongkong, according to the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, who met Mr Zhao.

Lucknow deaths

Delhi (Reuter) — About 40 people were believed to have drowned when a river boat capsized on the Gomati River near Lucknow.

Porn penalty

Nairobi (AFP) — Two women were jailed for six months each at Kakamega, Kenya, for having copies of a pornographic magazine and a 1979 Playboy calendar. The sentence follows President Moi's demand this week for strict enforcement of laws against pornography.

Changing race

Cape Town (AP) — South Africa changed the races of 690 people last year, according to official statistics. Two thirds had been coloured (mixed race) who became white. Seventy-one blacks became Coloureds and 11 whites were classified to other race groups.

Meeting of peace groups breaks up in disarray

From Marie Modiano, Athens

An international conference for the denationalization of Europe which brought together for the first time 67 peace movements from 29 countries of East and Western Europe and North America, ended here yesterday in complete disarray.

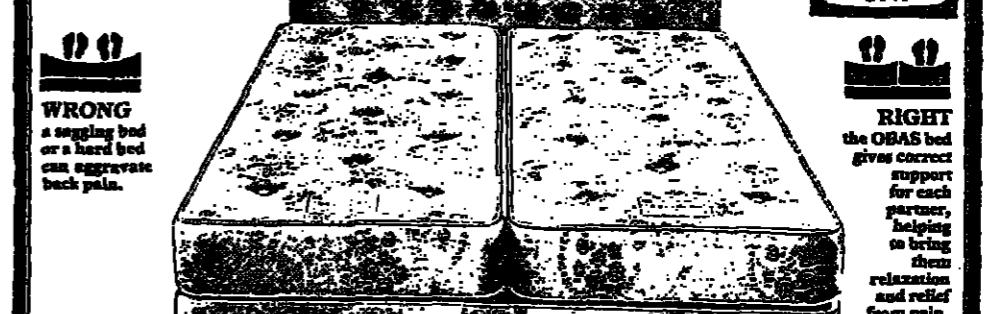
A draft communiqué calling for an immediate nuclear freeze, as well as a "no-first-strike" pledge by all nuclear powers, started such a storm of protest

that it was not even put up for adoption.

The four-day conference underlined the profound divisions between Western peace movements and the officially-sponsored peace committees in East Europe both on the causes of the nuclear deadlock and the repression of the independent peace movements in communist countries.

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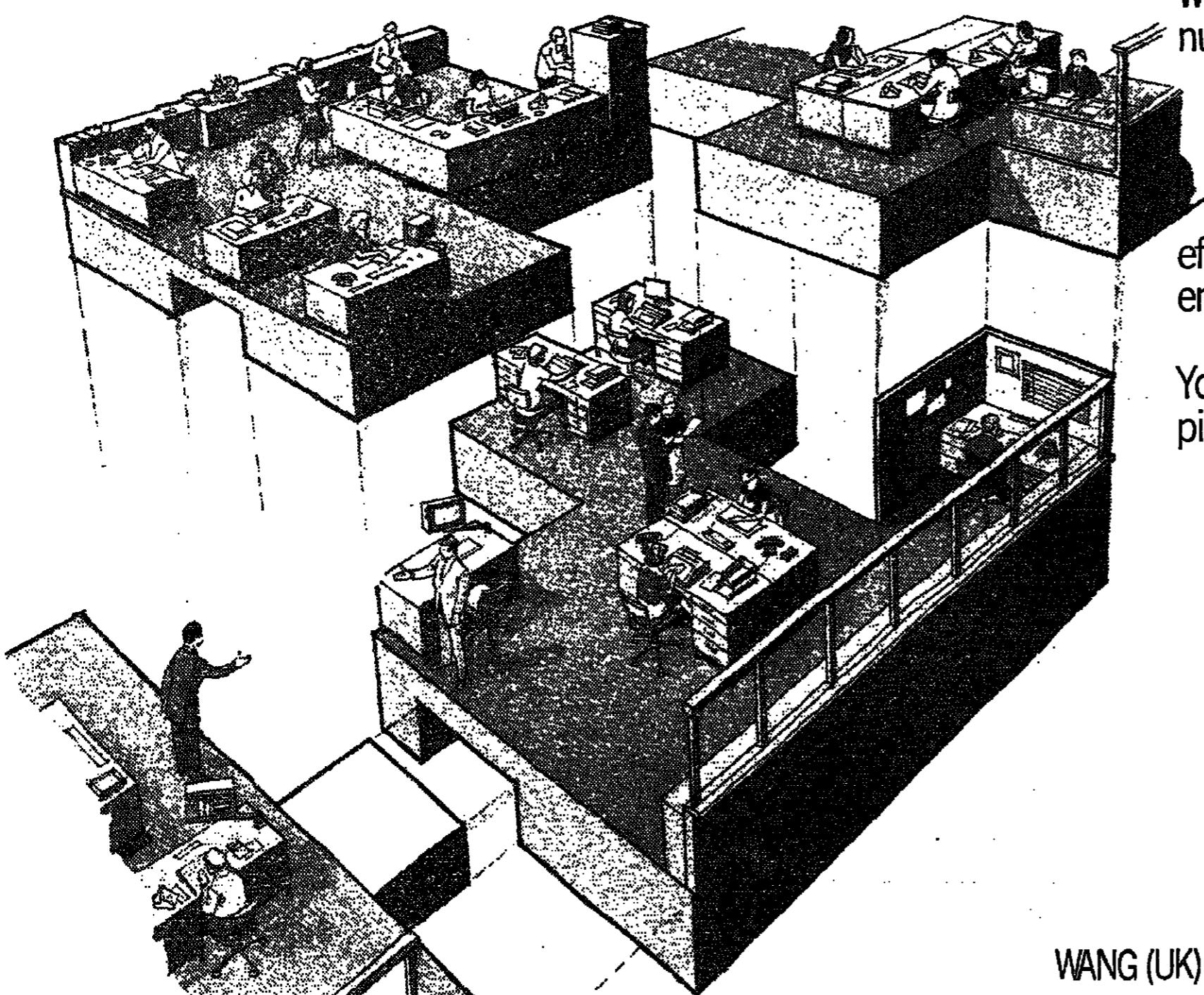
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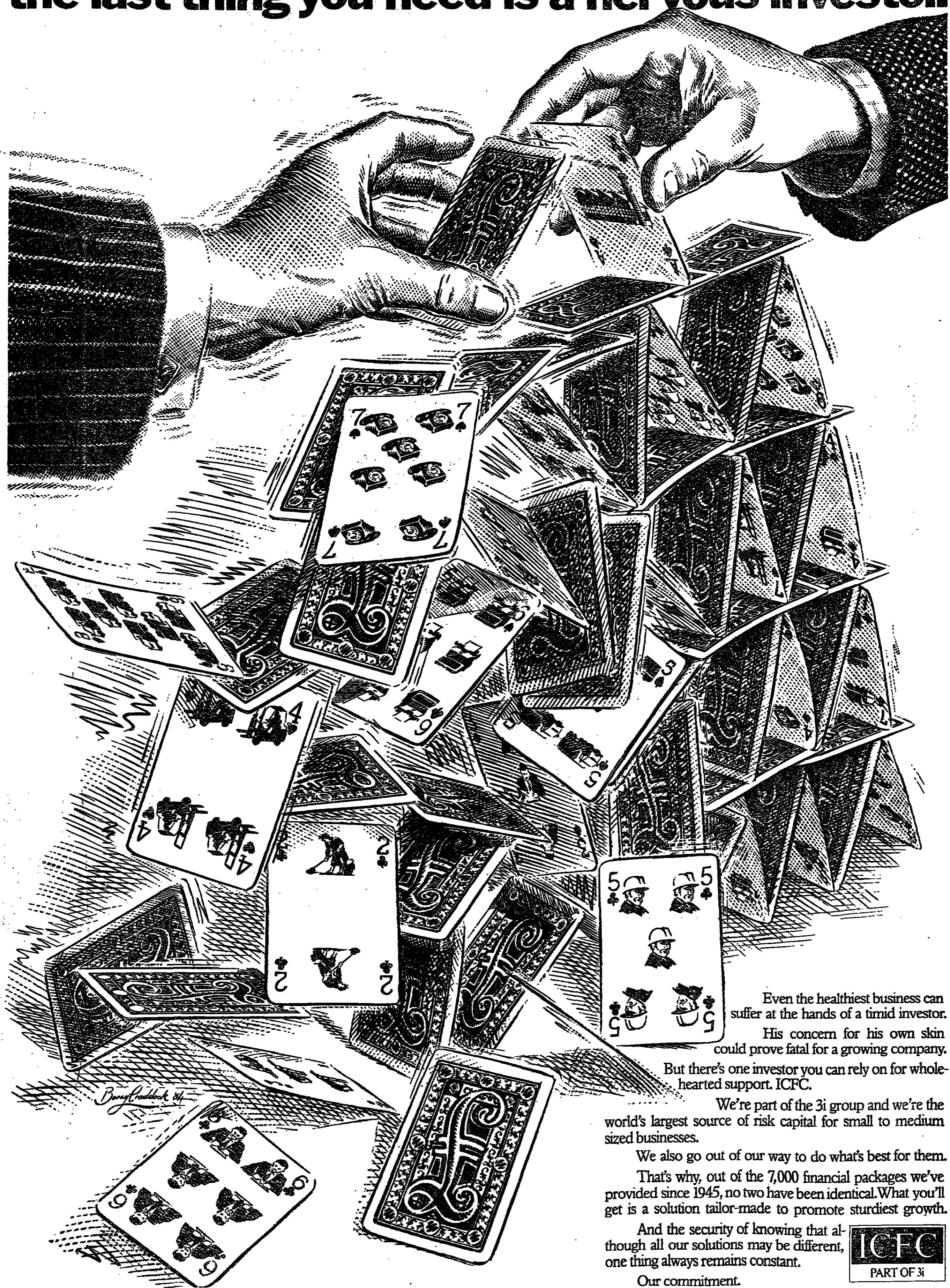
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SPECTRUM

Photographs by Paul Sayer

ANTHONY CARO

Anthony Caro is the only sculptor of the group, and he has an international reputation for large abstract work involving steel girders and giant metal discs. His tower room in Japanese oak is based on one of his original bronzes. The angled turret is poised on a column reached by a twisting stairway built above an intricate network of supports. There is not a single plane that corresponds to the next - everything is a visual and physical surprise that invites further exploration. The cylindrical space which the sculpture encloses is ample big enough for a child - barely for an adult. Comes like telescopes emerge from the space like a ship's crow's nest.

I was interested in the sculptural problems of what it is like to inhabit a space. What it feels like to sit down, stand, climb, walk. Children have a consciousness of the volume they are inhabiting and we lose it as we get older. So I tried to create all sorts of interesting spaces to go through, holes to look through, and I wanted it to be for adults. I wanted people to be able to sit there in the barrel and look through the tubes, and I wanted the floor to slope and be hairy. I didn't want it to be comfortable. Sculpture is my language, but in order to make a sculpture about feeling I have to use space and material and form. If we became more aware of space we would get more enjoyment from buildings and from sculptures. With sculpture your eyes do the walking. Here your body does the feeling.

Caro's tower is literally the most sensational of the four inventions. The feel of the structure is quite different from its appearance. He was limited by the height restriction, but it works for small adults as well as for children. As you climb into it the scale changes and you have to turn and twist, duck under arches, shrink through too-narrow spaces, stand safely on a platform one minute and suddenly feel unsafe when you step on to the unexpectedly sloping floor. If you accept the view put by Richard Hamilton that "the creation of a room of one's own is among the most revealing things we do", this experience of self-discovery is enough justification for the whole exhibition.

4 rooms, 4 views

What is a room? Four artists were asked to design a room each and they came up with four wildly different ideas, from the chill of an operating theatre to a sculpture like a tree house. Today they go on public display. BERYL DOWNING reports.

"Four Rooms" opens today at Liberty's in London. Michael Regan, exhibition organizer at the Arts Council, wanted to commission four rooms which were artistic statements but which also involved objects that could be made and sold. He wrote to a dozen stores, of which 11 either did not

reply or told him to come back in five years.

They had forgotten, perhaps, that artists could be designers. After all, before the Second World War, Graham Sutherland and Dufy designed textiles and Ben Nicholson designed ceramics. Liberty, though, have always worked with artist/designers and were happy to organize the selling and host the show.

"The brief was totally open", says Regan. "I gave the height and dimensions only and said go away and think about the function of a room.

"I wanted them to be art works so that the objects in them took a secondary role but contributed to the whole environment. I didn't say, this has not affected the art one bit."

"Design furniture that could be manufactured". I said "Design objects for your own room and then we'll see whether any manufacturer is interested."

"Although some objects are for sale, I wanted the rooms to work as art, with a life of their own. I was worried they might produce terribly domestic interiors and I am pleased that the results are four startlingly different rooms. They are not rooms you could live in, but they make you think about how we decorate and how we occupy the space we live in." There is, of course, something unusual about an Arts Council exhibition appearing in a commercial department store, but this

HOWARD HODGKIN

Howard Hodgkin, painter and print-maker, has been chosen to represent Britain at next year's Venice Biennale. He uses thick blocks of colour almost like building bricks and his favourite blob motif is represented in his crowded, tented room by paw marks and leopard prints. The whole room is like an overstuffed sofa and is crammed with furniture all round the walls - squashy chairs and sofas in blue glazed chintz interspersed with low plywood tables painted with paw marks. These look spontaneous, but were carefully applied under Hodgkin's instruction by Nicholas Gammon, building up layers of diluted acrylic paint, painted wet on wet to achieve the depth of finish. The lamps are in patinated bronze and the contrast of the unlovely white vinyl floor emphasizes the luxurious effect of the other materials used. The deep blue of the walls continues over the ceiling giving the impression of a cocoon and two doors allow viewers to walk straight through.

I wanted to make a room which was sufficiently fantastic and sufficiently non-specific to enable visitors to make what they wanted of it. I wanted it to be surreal and claustrophobic, with lots of chairs so that people could sit down anywhere and relax. I chose blue because it is a very romantic colour and

flattering to human flesh - it is also quite exotic and was used a lot in classical interiors.

I thought it would be fun to design for production but it wasn't. I wanted to design simple products - to find lights that look like lights is impossible - but having designed them, the price put on them by the manufacturer seems exorbitant. It seemed very strange that one was expected to produce designs without any reference to the price they would sell at. If one had been a trained designer for industry surely one wouldn't have been kept in the dark. Why the white floor? Ah, that's to give the game away. It would have looked too much like a real room otherwise.

This room is cunningly placed between the unreal world of the artist's imagination and the comforting familiarity of Liberty's furniture department. The lavish use of fabric gives an opulence which has physical effect - I saw the room first in an unheated warehouse. I returned, frozen, to this tent to get warm - a total illusion. The most domestic of the interiors, it emphasizes the particularly sad point that British manufacturers consider artists as incidental intellectuals rather than as commercial contributors, even when they are designing goods for batch production.



MARC CHAIMOWICZ

Marc Chaimowicz has produced the most paradoxical interior. Each component is functional, yet the whole is an intellectual exercise, a room to be contemplated rather than felt. The visitor observes from a corridor and looks into a cool, grey space bisected by a screen, with a desk which pivots into place for use and can be up-ended to become a sculpture. Behind it is a corner sideboard slightly derivative of the 1930s, in another corner a sloping chest with alternating inset and projecting drawers, and sofa bed with a sweeping overhead arm echoing the lines of the desk. A narrow panel of stained glass and back-lit pierced cross in one wall give a feeling of ecclesiastical calm, sharply contrasted with a giant screen showing slides of the people who might occupy such a room. It is presented like a museum room, to be considered, not enjoyed, with observers deliberately excluded from the room space. The lighting is cold and uninviting, further adding to the room's forbidding atmosphere.

I have a great regard for the architectural profession at its best. Architects deal with reality in a way that artists don't - it's a question of function rather than symbols and metaphor. I have also been attracted more and more by the lost tradition of artists working commercially with manufacturers. There is something intriguing about the anonymity of presenting drawings to a textile manufacturer and then being surprised later to see them in 10 different colours. There are tangible benefits in the cooperation between artist and commerce. I don't have any pretensions about changing the world. I am just fascinated by the issues of who one works for, who is one's public and how does one price one's work. It's a sort of tova and gava relationship.

Of all the rooms this was the one that felt most like a painting. The fact that it was three dimensional was irrelevant. It would have given the same impression of cool solitude had it been presented in tempera, so it certainly worked as art. But it was also a brilliantly innovative piece of design. The desk in its tilted form has a false perspective so that you can look at it for a considerable time without being able to work out how it assumes a conventional posture. The most functional piece is the sloping chest of drawers which could fit any modern interior and to accommodate the other pieces you would need a mini Musée des Arts Modernes, but if you have one, the pieces are all beautifully made to order by Pearl Dot.



RICHARD HAMILTON

Richard Hamilton, one of the founders of pop art, has been involved in the interpretation of interiors since the This is Tomorrow exhibition of 1956. But what he describes as "the brash expectation of the fifties" has developed into a bleak view of today's negative society. His room is not domestic. It is an operating theatre with a stainless steel sink for the surgeon to wash his hands of us, and with the all-seeing, unseeing eye of Mrs Thatcher on the menacing close circuit screen surveying the bed. As you pass beyond the X-ray screen you are meant to sense the protected power of the operator separate and uninvolved.

At first I thought of the project as a statement of non-style, rather than as a political statement. I have spent a lot of my time being involved with highly styled interiors and stylishly presented exhibitions which have been works of abstract art in themselves, so this time I wanted to make a room which had no decorative or aesthetic content. I actually expected it to be a little more off-putting than it has turned out. It has an impersonal quality but I actually like the look of it. I now find it rather beautiful. Having made a design to produce an ugly space it withered in trying to carry it through. But people who see the

room would immediately identify it as mine so it must have style after all.

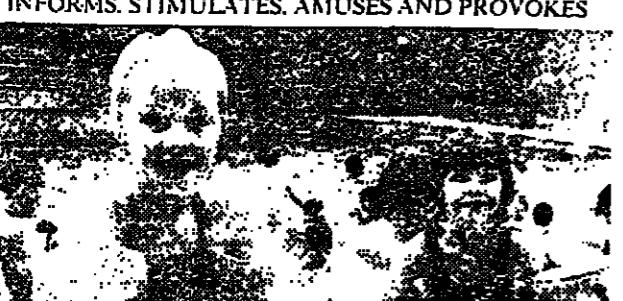
I doubt whether many Liberty disciples will know what to make of this one. It is an interior but it is not design, unless you consider all politics to be design. It is certainly not commercial or reproducible or desirable. It is threatening and stark and unsympathetic and so is as valid a comment on a section of 1984 society as Orwell's prophecy was, if it makes visitors feel uncomfortable. It will have achieved its aim and so justified its inclusion, if only as a contrast to the decorative interpretations. But for me the aftertaste is inappropriate - as if your son's best man were not only making embarrassing jokes but canvassing votes.

Four Rooms is at Liberty, Regent Street, London W1 until March 10 and then at the following art galleries: Wolverhampton, April 7 - May 13; Southampton, May 26 - July 8; Newport, July 21 - August 26; Aberdeen, September 8 - October 2; and Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield, October 20 - November 18. The fabrics are in production by Warners, wall-papers by Coles, Marc Chaimowicz's furniture by Pearl Dot to order, and Howard Hodgkin's furniture and lamps by Aram.

THE TIMES

Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES



On the waterfront: Whatever happened to municipal baths?

In the bathroom: Clean-living designs

Travel: Off to find America - fare deals and home exchanges

PLUS: News from home and abroad • In the Garden on roses • pick of February's wines • Family Life looks at children leaving home • critics' choice of forthcoming events in the arts • stay in love on Valentine's day • Bridge and Chess

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The wrong climate for dates

however... Russell Davies

to *The Times*. By the end of August, but the response from the French in such a case could be expected to be yet more obstructive, especially on the agricultural front. Faced with the fact that at any given moment it would be, say, September in England and October on the Continent, the French government could be relied upon to ban consignments of British lamb on the grounds that they had taken a month to get from Dover to Calais, and must therefore be unpalatable. While this objection would be easy to set aside by pickling the offending imports in mint sauce, others of a similar kind would follow, as sure as eggs are (pending Euro-council ratification) *œufs*.

However, serious difficulties attach themselves to this attractive plan. Chief among them is the problem of squaring the change with the EEC. Though it is highly likely that our Continental neighbours are experiencing the same wonky uneasiness as we are (witness the number of ski races these days that have to be held on artificial Soapstone surfaces), it is overwhelmingly improbable that the French, for one, would admit it: they like to appear to be in control of such things. Besides, while it is true that individuals and their families would enjoy August just as much as the English, the French government would surely not be happy at the prospect of leaving Paris deserted for more than 60 days.

Britain could, of course, go it alone and declare unilateral

Augustagust, but the response from the French in such a case could be expected to be yet more obstructive, especially on the agricultural front. Faced with the fact that at any given moment it would be, say, September in England and October on the Continent, the French government could be relied upon to ban consignments of British lamb on the grounds that they had taken a month to get from Dover to Calais, and must therefore be unpalatable. While this objection would be easy to set aside by pickling the offending imports in mint sauce, others of a similar kind would follow, as sure as eggs are (pending Euro-council ratification) *œufs*.

But there is no need to take things too far. Nobody in our lifetime is likely to be heard crooning "I'm as corny as Kansas in September, high as the flag on the Fourth of August". We in England just want to, as they say, regularize our own position. We can start by enlisting the support of television personalities like the lovely Feb Leeming. I think we can count on the backing of Conservative pressure groups like the Tuesday Club and the 1923 Committee. And with the support of *The Times* and its September readership, we will April forward to face the future, come what may.

February sales" or "the Ides of April"? I think not.

Sundry benefits, indeed, could accrue from this simple displacement of dates. Kurt Weill's "October Song" might find a whole new army of fans (if that is the expression) beyond the Iron Curtain. Devotees of the long-running musical *The Fantasticks* might not be so enthusiastic over the loss of "Try to remember the kind of September . . .", but I feel sure they would derive an even deeper satisfaction from "Try to keep sober at least till October . . .", once they had got, or gotten, used to it.

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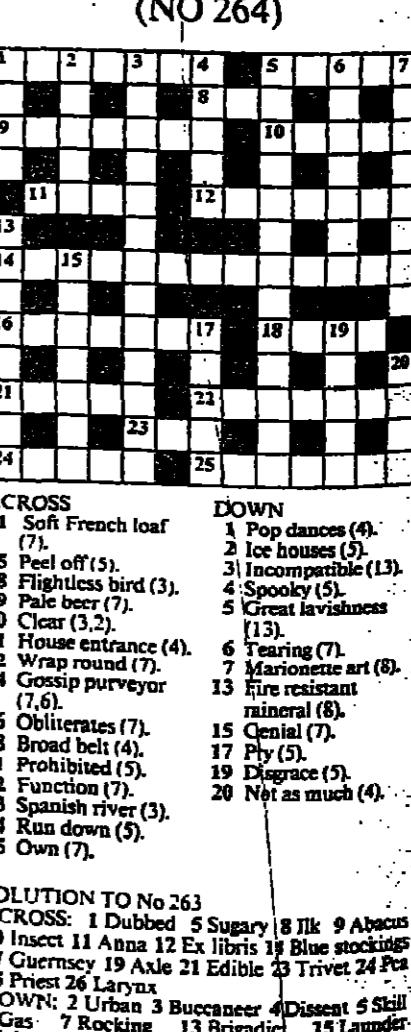
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FRIDAY PAGE

Audrey Slaughter reports on the latest lucrative business scheme - running homes for the elderly

Cashing in on the granny boom

Grandies are big business. In fact, growing old is one of the few growth areas in the economy. There are more gannies, and grandfathers (though thanks to female longevity there are fewer of them) today than ever before, but there are fewer people to look after them. Smaller families (so there are fewer children to take care of elderly relatives), smaller houses (so there is less room to swin a granny), and career-minded daughters (who find it even more difficult to obtain an au pair for their young mothers than for their toddlers) have cut the number of carers in the family, but better health means the elderly live on - and on.

Small-scale entrepreneurs used to find holiday homes, caravan sites and laundrettes a good, trouble-free, lucrative outlet for their capital: very little managerial skills or attention needed, no special qualifications. Today, with an eye on Britain's ageing population, they find to their surprise and delight that a private old people's home is highly profitable and, thanks to some extremely lax regulations, almost anyone can slap a bit of paint on a redundant motel and open a "Twilight Home", as they are dubbed in the US. Provided fire regulations are observed, the over-worked local authority is not strict about registering a home - it has not the staff or the budget to carry out systematic inspections. One matron of a Bedfordshire home calmly shipped off her surplus residents when the local social services inspector was expected, dumping them with a variety of ex-employees

until the danger of being charged with overcrowding was over. Naturally this varies from authority to authority, but on the whole the social services department, faced with taking infirm and confused old people into homes in the public sector, is only too happy to have the pressure eased by a private entrepreneur.

"I made up my mind never to be a burden to anyone," said my 92-year-old spinster aunt and, with the same firmness and organizational skill she had used in running her village church, county council and front-line hospital in two world wars, checked out the options and installed herself in a private residential home for old people. She was tired of the problems of running her own too-large home and garden and was firm in her resolve not to live with me.

Unfortunately, the brochures describing old people's homes are about as accurate as an estate agent's. Having settled on one within visiting distance of her friends, my aunt was shown around by a gracious woman wearing a sympathetic smile and an artful if unearned white medical coat. She readily agreed that my aunt could bring her own bed and favourite armchair. The chairlift sliding up the long flight of stairs, the sun lounge and the television room were prominently featured. Mention was made of night staff. Satisfied with the facilities my aunt (paradoxically shocked by the wages/colour television/use of car demanded by housekeepers) calmly agreed to pay almost £200 a week for a room and

bathroom. The room is largely furnished with her own things, something which she finds a comfort - and so does the proprietor, whose capital outlay is thus reduced.

That was the last my aunt saw of the gracious lady, except for one brief moment when she bustled in without knocking to show my aunt's room to new prospective. In the two years she has been there she has changed from an autocratic old dear with a keen intelligence and sharp sense of humour, to a tired and defeated old lady waiting for death. "Please God I won't be here next spring, next Christmas, next month," she says with distressing frequency, huddled in a chair, smothered in rugs and clutching a hot water bottle.

The home's brochure talks about a family atmosphere. The family must be a very strange one. The home is staffed by a series of part-time village women who are kindly enough, but preoccupied with their own families and anxious to get back to them. There's no time to stop and chat and cheer. Meal times and help with baths are efficient, but perfunctory. The food is abysmal - tough stews, badly cooked vegetables and invariably a commercial ice cream which may be kind to dentures, but is short on nutrition and imagination.

Visitors are discouraged from coming at tea-time because of the strain on the domestic staff (a euphemism for the part-timers) who are apparently overwhelmed by the task of providing thick cups of even thicker brownish fluid and a dry biscuit or two. When we visit, we

take a picnic of a decent grade of tea in the fine china cups my aunt misses so much. In fact, it is the utilitarian slop of the china and cutlery which most of the inhabitants feel so keenly. The "24-hour medical staffing" claimed in the brochure is, in reality, a 70-year-old retired nurse dozing in the kitchen, but willing to bring a comforting cup of tea in the middle of the night if required - one of the few thoughtful touches for old people who nap a lot

during the day and sleep fitfully as a result.

My aunt has had three falls since she has been there. The first time was during the night, when she tripped on a dangerous bedside rug on her way to the bathroom and, out of reach of her bell, lay there helpless and cold until breakfast was served at 8am. The second time she fell from her high, old-fashioned bed during an afternoon nap and fractured her pelvis. She was

unceremoniously bundled off to a hospital alone.

But she is lucky. She could have been born without a private income and in that era when companies did not provide pension schemes - like Nellie, featured in one of the excellent BBC *Brass Tacks* documentaries last October called "Tender, loving neglect". Nellie, arthritic, infirm, lived alone on an impersonal council estate sometimes forgetting to eat, often finding the effort of

fitting a plug into a kettle to make herself a cup of tea too much for her. Watching the film of her palsied hands endeavouring to pour boiling water into a teapot, one almost wished she wouldn't try. Nellie desperately wished for a place in a home. "I must be able to be some help on my good days," she offered, but she had to come to terms with the fact that there were 38 people ahead of her in a queue for one place in the local authority home.

In the same film, former ballerina Lady Maria Holly and her companion had taken themselves off to a private home, like my aunt. "Why did you give up your independence?" reporter Tony Wilson asked. "I don't know what to say about independence really," Lady Holly said matter-of-factly, "because when you're old, you're not independent." Certainly my aunt, for all her comparative wealth, is not independent. "Don't complain," she begged of me when I was indignant about the lack of interest from the proprietor and the indifferent efforts of the cook. "They'll only ask me to go if I'm a nuisance. At least if you're dying here they don't turn you out. Some places do. As soon as you're ill they pack you off to hospital. Here, I can die in my own bed."

It is obvious that with our ageing population, the problem of care is going to become even more acute. For reasonably active pensioners, there's a lot to be said for the small-purpose-built flats and bungalows looked after by a warden.

But there is still the problem that if you become really infirm and need nursing, there are few facilities in such an arrangement to stay. The prospect of dying in alien, impersonal surroundings terrifies many old people, even if they've come to terms with death itself. Swingeing cuts in health services and a shortage of local authority funds means that the situation is not going to get better in the public sector, which is why the private sector is booming and speculative eyes from across the Atlantic are brooding over expansion plans here.

Meanwhile, beady-eyed businessmen are moving in to clean up, cynically aware that they're more than a match for a hard-pressed social services department inspector assessing their fitness to be registered as a twilight home.

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But there is still the problem that if you become really infirm and need nursing, there are few facilities in such an arrangement to stay. The prospect of dying



Primrose path

Lady Olga Maitland, that effervescent defence campaigner, will use the Young Conservatives' annual conference in Blackpool this weekend as a launch-pad for a new magazine called originally enough, *The Defence Campaigner*. Lady Olga, power behind the supposedly non-party Women and Families for Defence - set up last March to counter CND - tells me that the new quarterly (5,000 copies at 50p each) will plead for people to come forward with tales of "peace stories" being infiltrated into school lessons. "Parents are very intimidated, and don't complain about what their children are taught, and that's usually unilateralism, from left-wing teachers," she said. "In my day at school, we hardly knew what politics were."

Times change. The editor of *The Defence Campaigner* is a 16-year-old schoolgirl who certainly knows what politics are. Janet Parrett is not only studying politics and world history, economics and government at A-level, but she is also chairman of Eltham Young Conservatives.

The sting

As if there was not already teeth-grinding among the publishers who passed up the opportunity to seize what looks like being the novel of the season, *The Wasp Factory* (even now going into reprint before publication next week), the BBC has unwillingly added insult to injury. Featuring the first-time author, Iain Banks, on its cerebral *Bookmark* programme, the Beeb needed a First World War bunker in which to film a dramatized extract from the novel, but since none was available settled instead for the cellar of a house in Tooting Bec - owned by the publicity director of a rival publisher.

The *Kerish Gazette* carried a job-seeking classified advertisement from an "ex-patriot" managing director. Perhaps the KGB could employ him.

Blunderland

Queen Victoria as the author of *Alice in Wonderland*? What nonsense! David Rosenbaum and the Continental Historical Society of San Francisco are way off beam when they suggest in their book *Queen Victoria's Alice* that the real Lewis Carroll was Her Majesty rather than Charles Dodgson. Dodgson denied authorship because of the 1880 scandal arising from his hobby of photographing little girls in what he called "their favourite dress of nothing to wear". It is even possible that he was the victim of a blackmail attempt based on his special interest. Indeed a new "faction" novel by Donald Thomas, *Belladonna: A Lewis Carroll Nightmare*, published next month, suggests that Dodgson could have been involved with Charles Augustus Howell, the notorious blackmail immortalized as Milverton in a Sherlock Holmes story.

BARRY FANTONI



Assisted passage

In another chapter of the *Spectator* saga, Alexander Chancellor told his readers yesterday that he is "less than happy" about his departure after nine years in the editor's chair, though he is delighted with the choice of his successor, Charles Moore. Mr Chancellor writes: "I am looking forward to some fresh air. It's quite hard to be out of a job, and sometimes it's difficult to leave a place. You need a helping hand." It's good to know that Aly Cluff, the proprietor, is so obliging.

Voting early

As Vice-President George Bush arrives in London this weekend, his political opponents are limbering up for an early round of the seemingly interminable US election campaign. The Democrats Abroad organization is sending out tomorrow the first ballot papers for the overseas primary vote in which American expatriates can choose their Democratic presidential candidate and their 10 delegates to the party convention in July. This year's overseas vote to be declared on March 13 is particularly important to the Democratic front-runners, Walter Mondale, John Glenn and Jesse Jackson, because it will be one of the first tests of opinion, following the Iowa caucuses and the first primary in New Hampshire. Furthermore, the overseas delegates will be last to vote at the convention, so they could be crucial to the wheeling and dealing that goes on. The 80,000 or so Americans in Britain, all of whom naturally read this column, may obtain ballot papers from Democrats Abroad, 78 Redcliffe Square, London SW10. PHS

Jenkin's Green Belt U-turn

Private house builders seldom win popularity polls. Architects despise their little boxes (and their under-employment of architects). Defenders of green fields blame them for despoiling England's pleasant land. No owners of a des. res. want a Wimpey house on the corner or Barratt building over the waste ground where they take their dogs for a walk.

On occasion the builders deserve the criticism, but now - after yesterday's government announcement on the Green Belt - they have a case. Their complaint is this. On one side of Whitehall they are praised by Treasury ministers as an engine of growth, intensive employers of labour, heavy users of domestically-produced materials. Employment ministers urge people to move to jobs and presumably intend them to live in houses in employment areas. Housing ministers say council house building is a residual sector; that housing policy is now carried on the backs of the private sector. Fine, says the House Builders Federation, only too happy to be seen to combine the public interest with profit. But what about the Environment Secretary, who doubles as the minister for town and country planning?

When Mrs Thatcher appointed Patrick Jenkin to head the department last year, the time seemed right to nudge the pendulum which has swung unevenly between development and control ever since the planning system was put in place in 1947. (Whatever Mr Jenkin's predecessor, Mr Michael Heseltine, may have said, there had since 1979 been

no bonfire of planning controls.)

Mr Jenkin issued two circulars in rapid succession, guidance on what councils should do and indications of how he would jump if he were to adjudicate on councils' refusal to permit housing development. To the builders it seemed as if overall government policy was becoming consistent; that a new era of relative liberalism was beginning. No one was proposing putting two-bedroom apartments on beauty spots such as Box Hill. But Jenkin was hinting that if councils were too tight with land and private housing on the edges of Green Belt territory, he would back the builders. In other words, if the (usually Conservative) councillors of Epsom or Hitchin or High Wycombe insisted on drawing the Green Belt's boundary right up to the front door of Boots in the High Street, the government would slacken it off.

Not for the first time, Jenkin showed a lack of political acumen in the way the circulars were presented. Luck went against him, too, because at about the same time the suburban squires had been alarmed by a builders' proposal to plant new commuter villages in Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and the other counties around London.

The Council for the Protection of Rural England entered the fray in alliance with the shire counties. Jenkin, besieged by his own backbenchers, conceded; the circulars were withdrawn.

Yesterday they reappeared, sanitized, cleansed of offending passages and resolutely green. They still

suggest, albeit in a rather vague way, that builders deserve a little generosity. But now they earn the CPRE's plaudits for fixing the Green Belt's boundaries and endorsing the apparatus of control in existing "structure" (county) and local plans.

The builders cannot be blamed for feeling they are back at square one, with government policy exhibiting a gross inconsistency. Whitehall wants the houses but is not prepared to will the land supply, ministers appear to have set their faces against those who will want to buy or move house in the South-east but do not already have the good fortune to live in Chorleywood or Tunbridge Wells.

Calculations of land supply and housing demand, are too fragile for the builders' case to be accepted in its entirety. Land for building has been allocated in the suburban counties; what remains of the "regional strategy" for the South-east claims there is plenty of scope in designated growth areas such as Milton Keynes or Wokingham. But

what of the principles of free choice and market economics which ought to put a premium on people making up their own mind about where to live and in what kind of home?

The builders' case is strengthened because what neither of these two circulars dare mention: London. Even assuming that it is acceptable to keep migrants from less-favoured areas out of the South-east, tightening the Green Belt will not stop Londoners escaping outwards. It will add to pressures on available land and ultimately on house prices in the rest of the South-east.

If you are a self-regarding resident of Herts (especially if you are the county planner or a local politician) the one thing you devoutly wish is long life and prosperity for the GLC. For without its "strategic" view and lots of public money, most of the implicit assumptions in the government's plans do not stand up.

The circular on Green Belts, as amended, makes pious reference to refurbishing the inner cities, so increasing the supply and attractiveness of housing within the metropolitan areas and easing pressures on the periphery. Fine as a principle; but refurbishment is very expensive and there will still be many people who don't fancy living on Beckton marshes or joining those intrepid colonizers of the Isle of Dogs.

The builders' case against the tightness of planning policy in the Home Counties will be strengthened unless there is substantially more public money for city housing, home improvements, infrastructure and site development. Alternatively there could be a fiscal revolution, for example abolishing mortgage tax relief, a measure which could have a remarkable effect on the supply of housing and reduce the need for building. Given Mrs Thatcher's predictions, that is unlikely.

What remains for the next few years (demography may come to the rescue in the 1990s) is a recipe for builders' unhappiness, house-buyers' frustration and oddly for a government that once talked about rolling back the boundaries of the state, an enhanced role for town and county hall planning bureaux.

David Walker

An Iranian dream turned sour

After five years of religious-inspired terror and executions, Hazzir Teimourian reports on everyday life in a country where chess is taboo and a tube of toothpaste costs £4



February 1979: Women in Tehran pay homage to their returned Ayatollah. The mood today is of disenchantment and depression

much more ruinous conflict with Iraq over the past three years have brought in their wake many hardships that even the clergy do not welcome. One can become accustomed to the austerity of prescribed dress in Iran, where women are encouraged to wear the all-enveloping black chador (literally, a tent) outside the home, and where the slightest trace of make-up entails the risk of many months in jail.

When, five years ago tomorrow, millions of Iranians poured on to the streets of Tehran to welcome Ayatollah Khomeini on his return from exile in France, they knew that their new alliance with the clergy meant at least a change of style: out would go the open admiration of the values of a consumer society, and in would come, for example, a greater emphasis on personal modesty. It was not foreseen by the majority that the clergy would soon develop a liking for power, and that their state would have to be recreated along lines decreed in the Koran by Allah. After all, the Ayatollah did promise that he would go back to his theological school in Qom and leave the running of the government to elected politicians in the capital.

Today, by all accounts, the great majority of Iranians are sorely disillusioned with their new circumstances, but the militant clergy have established tight control over most of the country and, short of another revolution, will continue their march towards their ideal of an Islamic state.

However, life under the mullahs is not merely the austere existence advocated by the men of religion with an eye on the greater luxuries of the other world. A five-year war with the Kurds in the western mountains of Kurdistan and the

electrocuted as

the war with Iraq has reached a stalemate, and no clergyman who could become a credible successor to 85-year-old Ayatollah Khomeini is within sight.

No formal laws have been passed to ban the playing of chess or the painting of landscapes, but such laws are not necessary. Every clergyman is supposed to be a qualified

If there is any sign of a benefit on the horizon of Islamic Iran, it is in the strengthening of family bonds.

Entertainment outside the home has been severely curtailed. Theatres and cinemas have been closed, or

made to concentrate on humourless revolutionary films from countries such as North Korea. As a result, more people choose to visit friends and relatives, but even here the possibilities are limited. Alcohol is

shortages of food and basic

requirements provide one of the main causes of dissatisfaction: Tea costs the equivalent of £15 a pound on the black market, and a tube of toothpaste £4.25, if it could be found at all. In addition, there are regular and prolonged power cuts all over the country, and in some regions heating oil has been unobtainable during the present, bitterly cold

winter.

Perhaps the most important side-

effect of the revolution has been the blow it has dealt the self-esteem of the nation. A lorry driver who supported Khomeini now says: "I wish someone would pour petrol over us and set it alight. We are good for nothing". A more sanguine view was expressed to me by an industrialist who is thinking of emigrating: "We are all depressed. There are many suicides, especially among the young. The closure of the universities over the past three years has been a body blow to their hopes. The least educated element among us has taken over the reins, and that is that. The same thing happened in Germany before the Second World War."

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looking into the future, the government faces a number of seemingly insurmountable problems: the fast-rising population (of 40 million people) has a far longer life expectation than its forebears; the war with Iraq has reached a stalemate, and no clergyman who could become a credible successor to 85-year-old Ayatollah Khomeini is within sight.

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and Revolutionary Guards have sometimes invaded houses in search of playing cards, chess pieces and backgammon boards.

No formal laws have been passed to ban the playing of chess or the painting of landscapes, but such laws are not necessary. Every clergyman is supposed to be a qualified

interpreter of the will of God in his locality, and his armed guards carry out his wishes obediently, transforming him into the undisputed king of the area. Such possessions as taped music or the poetry of Omar Khayyam are regarded as circumstantial evidence proving moral perversion and counter-revolutionary tendencies.

One favourite pastime has become the reading of books of history - especially ancient history - as these are not regarded by the authorities as dangerous influences. The importation of radio sets with short-wave reception is banned, though many a household still

possesses them and secretly listens to foreign stations. The local media are under the complete control of the clergy, but even here it is possible to find surprises that seem to have escaped the attention of the censor. Recently, a leading magazine sent a number of reporters on to the streets of Tehran to interview people on their views on the war with Iraq and on the general situation. Of 27 answers that were published, only two supported the government.

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contribution rates for the three groups now threatened will save the Treasury an estimated £370m a year.

The Treasury has to pick up much of the bill for retirement benefits because most public sector pension schemes are purely notional. There is no actual fund of employee and employer contributions to be invested and managed, as there is in the private sector, and pensions are paid out of the government's revenue budget.

Ironically, the Government's new

drive for higher contributions is

taking place at a time when inflation

has fallen to a level - about 5 per

cent - of which index-linking is no

longer - of such obvious advantage to

public sector employees. Whereas

fewer than 2 per cent of private

sector pension schemes guarantee to

index-link their pension benefits,

more than a quarter guarantee to

increase benefits each year by

between 3 and 4 per cent. Many

others use their discretion to top up

the value of benefits each year.

When inflation was running at

more than 20 per cent, this meant

that only the richest oil companies

and banks could effectively give

their pensions anything like

protection against inflation. Now it

is something that many more

schemes can afford to do, particularly as the present boom in world

stock markets is giving pension

funds some healthy investment

prospects.

But an index-linked pension is

still worth significantly more than

an unprotected pension. In what is

seen as an important prelude to its

planned flotation on the stock

market next year, British Airways is

proposing to buy out its workers'

rights to an index-linked pension at

a potential cost of up to £100m. The

Government and the airline's City

advisers have made it clear that a

company burdened with the potentially



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A TALE OF TWO BUDGETS

In privacy and apparent harmony, Mrs Thatcher's cabinet yesterday conducted its pre-Budget economic confabulation. The financial markets were quite unconcerned. Across the Atlantic, President Reagan's official advisers have been publicly and even abusively disagreeing about the consequences of his budget projections, frightening Wall Street and unsettling the dollar.

Open government is a virtue, and in Britain we still have too little information before the final decisions are taken on public expenditure and taxes – though Mr Nigel Lawson's promise of a green paper on long-term public spending is a welcome step further. But the American Administration is currently offering a parody of frankness which is an insult to all those dependent on the western world's largest economy.

To begin with this year, the financial markets were encouraged not to look too closely at the gaping hole in the President's Budget projections. It is, as his Treasury Secretary Donald Regan keeps reminding everyone, "a political year". In other words, don't worry if the President gets nowhere with his appeal to Congress for bipartisan agreement on budget reductions: if the figures don't add up, we'll put them right after the presidential election.

To their credit, neither Mr Martin Feldstein of the President's Council of Economic Advisers nor Mr David Stockman, his outspoken budget director, have been prepared to

mouth such soothing pap. And all this week the titanic figure of Mr Paul Volcker, the independent Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board – America's central bank – has been steadily demolishing Mr Reagan's wishful argument that big budget deficits are not a cause of high American interest rates.

Mr Volcker's view, expressed in several sessions of evidence to Congressional committees, is fair, clear – and sombre. The vast American budget deficit forces up interest rates. It is also reflected in a widening trade deficit which means America is to borrow almost equally vast sums of capital from abroad to plug the gap in its balance of payments. Most damning of all, as far as the financial markets are concerned, he told Congress that if the situation continued unchanged there would be increasing risks of a loss of confidence in the dollar.

The ideal change in American economic policy would be a cut in the budget deficit that allowed interest rates to come down, which in turn would allow the dollar to decline gently to more realistic levels. If the United States remains desperately in need of foreign capital to finance its deficit, the kind of dollar fall that would follow a loss of confidence would not be gentle at all. It is no wonder the financial markets are getting uncomfortable, and that the disagreements among the President's men are only making things worse.

For the dispute between the

managers of the budget policy is not just about the correct mix of plain speaking and electioneering that should carry them through 1984, nor even about the degree to which hard decisions can be put off until 1985. It is, increasingly, a reflection of real anxiety among those whose business it is to project the future about whether the scale of the deficit is now such that even a newly-elected President cannot begin to bridge it.

By 1985, America's boom, already slackening a little, may have subsided altogether. An incoming president will face the task of cutting spending to the bone or forcing taxes way up in the face of an economic recession. Mrs Thatcher bit that bullet in 1981, but Mrs Thatcher did not face a powerful and independent Congress, with its own views on every detail of public expenditure. Nor has any American president ever found it easy to raise taxes.

President Lyndon Johnson's failure to put taxes up to finance the Vietnam war was an early cause of the inflationary disease that has crippled the world economy from the end of the 1960s to the present day, and President Johnson was pastmaster at the wheeling and dealing with Congress necessary to effect the slightest change in budgetary policy. It is vital, and yet unlikely, that whoever sits in the White House in 1985 will have equal ability, plus the will, to force federal spending and taxation into line.

allegedly frequenting homosexual bars. When the evidence proved impossible to sustain Herr Kohl rejected the resignation of his defence minister, Herr Wörner, and had General Kiessling re-instated, hoping thereby to put the matter to rest.

So far he has been dis-

pointed. He emerged bruised from Wednesday's parliamentary debate on the subject, in which he was conspicuously denied support by the Bavarian wing of the party. Much of the criticism expressed publicly by the opposition is expressed privately by members of his own party. It is widely felt in Bonn that Herr Wörner has been so discredited in the public eye and among the armed services that he should be allowed to resign. Commentators have resurrected what Herr Kohl himself said some years ago when a Social Democratic defence minister was also landed in trouble by the ineptitude of the military intelligence department: that the minister had a moral obligation to carry responsibility for the affair.

Once criticism begins, everything is thrown into the pot – the corruption charges now pending against Count Lambsdorff, the Economics minister; the somewhat fumbling visit to Israel; poor preparation for the Athens summit; above all the strong impression that the decision on General Kiessling was made not on the merits of the case but in

order to avoid a cabinet reshuffle that would have exposed him to pressure to give a seat to Herr Strauss, the talented but difficult leader of the Bavarian Christian Democrats. By seeming to run away from this problem, which would cause trouble with his Free Democratic partners, he has made himself look weak.

Yet it was not an easy decision. Herr Wörner has been a good defence minister in other respects. To have let him go would have been a loss, and would have made it difficult to keep Herr Lambsdorff (who will anyway have to go if the charges against him are sustained). The coalition would have entered a wobbly phase which could have undermined its authority, and that of Herr Kohl. Nevertheless, not by acting according to his own professed principles of honourable behaviour Herr Kohl has also weakened his moral and political authority.

Whether he chose the greater or the lesser evil is not really for outsiders to say, though it is difficult to imagine a British defence minister surviving a similar debacle. What matters now is how far he can re-establish his authority. One obvious way to start would be to investigate whether there are institutional reasons for the apparent ineptitude of military intelligence, which has a sensitive and important role to play in a country as exposed to espionage as West Germany.

A question over question time

From Lady Burton of Coventry

Sir, Strangers trying to listen to Prime Minister's questions in the House yesterday (February 7) must have wondered what on earth was going on. That went for many of us non-strangers, too.

Without going into the matter of who planted what questions, it does seem to me that the procedure now used for Prime Minister's question time has greatly depreciated its undoubted value. Nowadays practically every question for the Prime Minister is the same, i.e., will she detail her movements for that specific day? Any MP called can then ask any supplementary he wishes.

In the past, questions addressed to the Prime Minister were similar to those addressed to other ministers requiring a definite answer. For most MPs to have an identical question on the order paper twice weekly, week after week, would never have been tolerated.

Who gains from the current custom? Not the public, not MPs who really want information and certainly not the Prime Minister. Yours faithfully,

BURTON OF COVENTRY,
House of Lords.
February 8.

Shipping forecasts

From Mr A. E. Somers and others

Sir, It is difficult for a minority group (unless newsworthy from a political point of view) to register a protest in the media, but it is hoped that you will give space to a matter of some concern to all who go to sea in small vessels.

The Cruising Association, representing 4,500 yachtsmen, is greatly concerned at the general presentation of shipping forecasts by the BBC, a matter of very considerable importance from a safety point of view.

Briefly, there are four shipping forecasts per 24 hours and ideally these should be broadcast at six-hourly intervals but instead are unevenly spaced, and a recent proposal indicates that the BBC is considering alterations which will make the spacing even more uneven, varying between four and eight hours, with the early morning forecast at 05.55 hours.

Apart from the unevenness of the timings, this earlier time for the morning broadcast will tend to discourage the inexperienced day sailor from listening, with inevitably increased demands on the search and rescue organisations.

Furthermore, the time devoted to these broadcasts – five minutes – means that the newsreader has to speak at such a speed that it is difficult to record the essential information.

Could not the BBC increase the time allowed by one or two minutes?

After all, there are approximately 35,000 to 40,000 yachtsmen and fishermen who are keenly interested in these broadcasts and who represent a not inconsiderable listening group.

Yours etc,
A. E. SOMERS,
C. A. GARNER,
CHRISTINE HUGGINS,
BRIAN LACEY,
NOEL DILLY,
HERBERT DUTTON,
RICHARD BROWN,
ANTHONY BROWNE,
Cruising Association,
Ivor House,
St Katharine Dock, E1.

Old two hundredth

From Mr Brian G. D. Salt

Sir, The demise of the ha'penny as a monetary quantity may be of small importance, but the loss of the coin is another matter. For me it will probably mean that I shall have to give up smoking, since the coin is the only one that can be inserted into the slot of my lighter when I need to re-fuel it. But probably ASH would regard that as a good thing.

But the demise of the fourth leaders in *The Times* (leading article, February 4) was a disaster only less important than the loss of *The Times* itself for 11 months and for shorter periods since. If you cannot get some amusement from the suggestion that we should nationalise the clouds and have a Ministry of Nebulous Planning, or from the detailed discussion in 1945 of the ownership of a dead pheasant observed on the front of a railway carriage, then you are indeed a poor fool.

Fortunately a few authentic fourth leaders appeared after their general demise, but even these few seem to have ceased. The last that I can remember was in April 1973, which discussed the merits or otherwise of Señor Hernandez's ambition to become a bulldogger.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN G. D. SALT,
Little Sutton Cottage,
49 Sutton Lane South,
Cricklade, W4.

Council spending

From the Leader of Norwich City Council

Sir, Mr L. D. Coutts (January 11) points out that among Norfolk district councils Norwich spends 34 per cent over the Government's grant-related expenditure assessment, while four Conservative controlled authorities spend between 20 and 30 per cent under

Mr Coutts's figures are selective and his conclusions questionable. He points out that the four Norfolk authorities are spending less than what the Government considers necessary to provide a standard level of service, but does not mention that the Norfolk County Council, of

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A question over question time

From Professor Anthony Clunies Ross

Sir, Compassion and good sense demand support for the Dean of St Paul's when he pleads (February 7) for more public and private support for voluntary community-service bodies.

Yet the assumption behind his letter, that the age of work for all has gone for good, is I believe, misleading and therefore dangerous.

Popular opinion is all too ready to take an evil of a few years' standing as part of the fixed course of nature. Thus the post-war dollar shortage appeared to be part of the laws of history until it changed mysteriously in 1958-60 into the equally ineluctable dollar surplus.

The weak pound seemed to be endemic, until, in 1980, we were hit by the strong pound, which acquired its own brief immortality as the 'poundeth'.

Most pertinently, twenty years of inter-war unemployment left even its most brilliant assailants with a view of the possibilities of full employment that turned out, for much of the period since, to be too pessimistic.

The Dean is clearly as aware as any of us that many important things need to be done and that three million or so people are more or less keen to do them. The key change needed to make this possible and acceptable is an arrangement that can keep real rates of pay at levels capable of being covered by marketable output when all willing hands are employed.

Several other European countries have achieved such an arrangement by intelligent negotiation and have for practical purposes maintained near-full employment.

The palliatives proposed by the Deans (compulsory work and pay sharing, restrictions on overtime, compulsory early retirement) would be an admission of defeat. All act to limit work rather than to promote it. If government and unions could agree on these unfamiliar, unwelcome and wasteful devices, then they could probably agree on the much less drastic measures needed for ordering pay claims so as to make full employment possible.

There is, however, one palliative recently proposed by a colleague of mine, Frank Kirwan, which deserves serious attention. It is directed towards the long-term unemployed, whose prospects look otherwise especially bleak. This is that any person who has been registered as unemployed for more than a certain period (say six months) should carry a wage subsidy to any employer who is ready to employ him as an additional worker.

That subsidy should be equal to the total net social-security payment that the person would receive for such period as he could actuarially forecast at 05.55 hours.

That is to say, if it did not take steps to eliminate the risk.

Yours faithfully,
G. C. HAMPSON,
Broad Oaks,
16 Monks' Well,
Waverley,
Farnham, Surrey.

Non-unionism at GCHQ

From Mr G. C. Hampson

Sir, For how much longer are we to be assailed by the assertion that "everyone has the right to belong to a trade union"? Surely it is common knowledge that this "right" doesn't extend to members of the Armed Forces or to the police and the reason for this is obvious.

There is, however, one palliative recently proposed by a colleague of mine, Frank Kirwan, which deserves serious attention. It is directed towards the long-term unemployed, whose prospects look otherwise especially bleak. This is that any person who has been registered as unemployed for more than a certain period (say six months) should carry a wage subsidy to any employer who is ready to employ him as an additional worker.

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Yours faithfully,
G. C. HAMPSON,
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16 Monks' Well,
Waverley,
Farnham, Surrey.

Old two hundredth

From Sir Arthur de la Mare

Sir, In his article, "What price loyalty in this market?" (February 7), Mr Robin Cook, Labour MP, waxed indignant at the trammels which the Government seek to put on the staff of GCHQ. "Several thousand citizens", he claims, "are to be forced to surrender their civil and legal rights to free association".

Good robust stuff, and I am sure that your readers would like more of it. So, for his next act, will Mr Cook please inveigh against the closed shop, by which many more thousands of citizens are blackmailed into surrendering their civil and legal rights not to join a trades union?

Previous disruptions at Cheltenham have demonstrated that there has been divided loyalty, and though the consequences to date may not have been very serious the Government would surely be failing

again, although it may be considered a drastic way to cope with neglected husbandry.

Walkers will appreciate the clearance of the wild roses and brambles from the footpath. And who is to say that a stretch of disused railway line should be allowed to revert to a wild, overgrown state, harbouring noxious plants, rather than be cleared for cultivation? At least the latter compensates slightly for the loss of agricultural land taken for development elsewhere.

Am I the only person exasperated by the hyperbole of the would-be conservatives with their emotive description of "hedges hundreds of years old"? Some few hedges may be, but the majority are of more recent date, as others testify.

I note that "wide strips of hedgerow have been razed to the ground." This suggests that they have not been uprooted and destroyed and will presumably rise

between 1978/79 and 1983/84.

Norwich City Council's increase in spending relative to target was 3.4 per cent below the national average, according to the Government's own figures.

Mr Coutts's suggestion, that in every part of the country local government is extremely questionable. Local government is at local difference; we are not a mathematically uniform country. Different local authorities have different problems and different views of how they should be tackled.

The Conservative controlled Association of District Councils and Association of County Councils come out strongly against the rates Bill, not, as Mr Coutts believes, because they fail to understand the

Getting more people back to work

From Professor Anthony Clunies Ross

Sir, I am sure that local government is important. They understand that local democracy is important. They understand that the rates Bill will totally confuse local accountability. They understand that local councillors will no longer be responsible for failing to respond to local needs and to the wishes of local electors.

They understand that people

are looking to the Government to sort out the shambles into which they have allowed local government finance to fall. They understand that there are no macroeconomic arguments which would justify the Government in taking these powers and that the taking of these powers is a constitutional issue.

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Imperial poised to expand its empire

By Jonathan Clare

The Imperial Group expects to make acquisitions among embryonic industries which are completely unrelated to its traditional core businesses of tobacco, brewing foods and restaurants.

Mr Geoffrey Kent, who has chaired the company for the last two-and-a-half years and seen its return to blue-chip status, said yesterday that the operating subsidiaries had been asked to suggest possible acquisitions both in their own fields and elsewhere. But he added that he did not expect Imps to make a "significant" acquisition during the current year and that investment in unrelated industries would be limited.

He also said that Courage, Imps' brewing subsidiary, had not asked if it could make an offer for Tollmache & Cobbold, the unquoted East Anglian brewery.

Imps' plans for future growth follow a sparkling set of full-year results with profits of £195.3m pretax against £154.3m. They stem from stable cigarettes sales, good brewing results and signs of improvement at

Howard Johnson, the troublesome American motel and restaurant chain.

Mr Kent said the BAT Industries' partial withdrawal from the British cigarette market, announced last week, would help Imps and others in the industry, but it was unclear by how much.

Mr Kent said: "One of the main BAT marketing strategies since 1978 has been discounting, with the result that margins for the industry have been depressed. If its distributor now abandons that policy it could benefit the industry as a whole."

The tobacco market has been stable for the last 15 months - the first real stability for seven years - after a small duty increase in the last Budget and higher discretionary spending.

Courage's market share of 9 per cent is the highest in its acquisition in 1972, largely through the success of Hoffmeyer Lager, Courage Best Bitter and take-home sales.

This year Courage will have an unusually high level of capital spending to upgrade many of its pubs - a strategy now adopted by most of the big

brewers. The brewing division, which made £71.6m against £58.5m was also helped by the new Reading brewery where profits are running above the original budget.

The final dividend has been increased by 12.2 per cent and is seen as a signal of further steady growth in both profits and dividends. The shares rose 2p to 154p. But Mr Kent admitted that HoJo would take time to turn round to the point "where it is making the returns I want."

Investment trusts

It is almost eight years since Britain's investment trust companies realized that they really had to take some individual and concerted action to counter their low status on the stock market, which was reflected in shares selling at a discount of a quarter or more on the balance sheet net asset values of their portfolios.

Today, the average discount is around 23 per cent at the lower end of the recent range, writes Graham Scarjeant.

The very nature of this campaign, a generic one showing the achievements of investment companies as a whole, demonstrates the sector's big problem. Companies cannot market their shares like the unit trusts managers do or advertise much more formal accounting statements of their

units.

Last year, for instance, international spread helped the companies to a 2.6 per cent average rise in net asset value compared with a 2.3 per cent average rise for the British stock market. This is, on the whole, a slightly better performance than unit trusts.

Of the companies reporting yesterday, both Morgan Grenfell's Anglo-American Securities and Baring's Tribune Investment Trust fared even better with gains of more than a third.

This means that those who do buy are, on the whole, buying good value for money. An investor looking for yield, for instance, can find what he wants on a better class of portfolio, thanks to the discount.

The many developments of recent years may not have raised status but have sharpened profitable takeovers. And if high streets are ever lined with investment shops, the trust companies' time will have come.

Stock market report, page 20

THE TIMES 1000

1983/84

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BRITISH FUNDS

1983/84 High Low Company Price Chg/peice % P/E

MEDIUMS

1983/84 High Low Company Price Chg/peice % P/E

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Enter a third force in money broking

A third force in international money broking, dominated by the two London-based firms, Mercantile House and Exco International, is rising from the ashes of the old Charles Fulton empire that collapsed at the beginning of 1982. Quietly, and with the minimum of fuss, a deal has been struck in New York that turns Charles Fulton (UK) into the third largest money brokers in America and is the first step in a dynamic young team's attempt to re-create a worldwide broking operation.

On January 5 the Charles Fulton team successfully completed 18 months of negotiations to take over Maybon, Nugent and Godsell, New York's largest traders in US government stocks. The deal was difficult to conclude because Exco International held 25 per cent. Working for the Fulton team was the fact that the young dealers in Maybon wanted to pull out, not only from Exco but from the control of the "old men" running the American company.

Mr Ron Valance, the finance director at Charles Fulton, refused to disclose how much was paid (in the "tens of millions of pounds") but did say that the dealers at Maybon now own a significant slice of the equity of the combined group. A diversification into financial services is the next stage.

The story began in March 1982 when Charles Fulton started losing money in some of its operations. It was then owned by Gill & Duffus, the commodity dealers, with 44 per cent, some funds in the Robert Fleming stable which held 11 per cent, and chief executive Mr Stephen O'Brien. An attempted £7m management buy-out failed because Gill & Duffus insisted on a quick sale. Mercantile House's £6.5m cash offer was accepted. Mercantile was ruthless in making the business conform to its thinking.

By May 1982 Mercantile was finding it increasingly difficult to hold the operation together. Staff were leaving "in droves" or demanding the right to buy themselves out. The first division to gain its freedom was Mr Robin Packshaw's for £700,000. The Middle-East operation, where local Arab interests had a stake, was bought out. In July 1982 Mr Bob Phelan and his team of dealers bought out the Hongkong, Singapore and Malaysian businesses. Mercantile had to let go the profitable parts of Charles Fulton for a total £5.5m, a million less than they paid for the whole group. Mercantile however had succeeded in insuring that the departed divisions were separate and unlikely to come together into a "new" Charles Fulton to compete with Mercantile.

Yet in 18 months the business and dealers have regrouped. The company now has direct lines to all the British local authorities, deals for two of the clearers and has an impressive corporate client list that include the leading insurance companies, industrial groups and building societies.

The age of those involved is material. Mr Valance, in his late thirties, and Mr Packshaw are considered the old men of the firm. The rest are in their twenties and early thirties. They begin work at 7am and have a strong will to succeed.

"We were a long way behind the two majors and we had to begin closing that gap. This deal in New York successfully does that", Mr Valance believes. The next step is to re-establish a close trading link with Mr Phelan's Far East group, also trading under the Charles Fulton banner.

NEWS IN BRIEF

WALL STREET

Further falls in share prices

French coal losses soar

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The French state-owned coal industry has followed the National Coal Board and announced an increase in losses with a warning of pit closures and job losses.

The French coal industry last year lost Fr750m (£63m), up from Fr115m in 1982. However, losses from its chemicals operation mean that losses of France, last year could total Fr2.1 billion.

The losses have been announced before a meeting between the group's management and unions at which coal output targets for this year will be set and job losses discussed.

Study warns against low-value specialization

UK 'at economic turning point'

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The United Kingdom is near, if not at, a moment of truth in respect of its relative economic decline, according to a 260-page study on structural adjustment in British industry released by the International Labour Organization yesterday.

It calls for leadership from government to help industry in long-range planning and innovation, particularly in new technologies, and increased technical education and training.

Britain's virtual specialization in low-value products will, the study says, "increasingly put into competition with low-wage but increasingly productive Third World countries.

In textiles, for example, Britain opted for the mass-market strategy, tackling developing countries' imports head-on, while West Germany, Sweden and Switzerland specialized in the up-market end of the

wellbeing is resolving the problem of the "two cultures". The "them and us" attitudes still prevail.

Working class cultures - "class solidarity coupled with an invertebrate hostility towards the rest of society" - was confronted by the public school caste and "differences perpetuated through distinctions between wage earners and salaried staff.

The study by Miss Margaret Sharp, Mr Geoffrey Shepherd, both of Sussex European Research Centre and Mr David Marsden of the London School of Economics, says the managerial culture, derived essentially from the aristocratic values of the 18th century, still places low valuation on technological studies with the result that most of those in positions of responsibility in industry, the Civil Service and the City are "gifted amateurs" ... with the working class culture as well.

While the study sees signs that the fiercely competitive climate of the last decade is beginning to jog industry in the right direction, more radical

measures will be needed in the

short term to reverse the decline in living standards.

Mr Michael Posner, the former chairman of the Social Science Research Council, is to become economics director in

Loan ruling may force BAe to abandon Airbus project

By Our Financial Staff

British Aerospace may be forced to pull out of the Airbus consortium if the Government refuses to give it all the cheap cash it wants to pay off its part in the new A320 version of the Airbus.

The City expects the Government will tell British Aerospace that it will have to go to the private sector to raise half the £473m it needs. This would mean it would be faced with raising expensive cash that it can ill afford and which institutional investors may be reluctant to risk, instead of the cheap loan that the Government could offer. Aerospace is putting £200m of its own resources towards the £640m share it has to put into the project.

A decision is expected soon - probably next week - and some City sources believe that the Government has already spelt

out to British Aerospace the options which are available.

The company's directors were not available yesterday, but the chairman, Sir Austin Pearce, threatened before Christmas to pull out of the A320 deal unless he received government backing.

Lord Rockley of Kleinwort Benson, the merchant bank which brought British Aerospace back to the private sector three years ago, said: "As far as we are concerned the Government and the company are still talking. Your guess is as good as mine as to when this matter will be resolved."

However, he preferred not to comment on whether the company had put out feelers in the City to see whether £200m or more could be raised and he said that it would be wrong for The Times to make any assumptions.

The Department of Trade

and Industry said that the possibility of raising private

cash was an option that had been considered and added that it was normal for the Government to provide only 50 per cent of "launch aid" for such projects.

Rolls-Royce has received only 50 per cent aid for a new engine which could be used to power the A320.

The likelihood of British Aerospace having to put up half the cash it needs has already been reflected in the share price, now 217p compared with a high of 238p.

One view expressed strongly in the City yesterday was that it would be better if the Government did only offer half the cash British Aerospace wants, encouraging the company to pull out of the project. One analyst said: "If they walk away from this deal it would be a sound commercial decision

Dollar steadies

The dollar fell sharply in New York and the Far East overnight on Wednesday, before steady yesterday in Europe. At one stage, it sank to DM 2.7270, before closing in London at DM 2.7340. 1.35 pence lower on the day.

Dealers said confidence in the US currency was fading following the strictures of Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, earlier this week on America's overdependence on foreign capital. The pound finished trading in London just over a cent up at \$1.4230.

The FT Index closed at 801.3 yesterday, a fall of 3.7 points.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index 801.3 down 3.7

FT Gilt 82.37 unchanged

FT All Shares 481.26 down 4.98

Bargains: 23,513

Datstream USM Leaders

Index 102.45 down 0.9

New York Dow Jones

Industrial Average 1159.13 up 2.83

Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones

Index 10,001.54 down 98.05

Hongkong Hang Seng

Index 1,090.08 down 11.29

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling

\$1.4230 up 1.05 cents

Index 81.7 up 0.2

DM 3.89 down 0.0050

FrF 11.9575 up 0.0075

Yen 332.75 up 1.75

Dollar

Index 129.8 down 0.6

DM 2.7340 down 0.0185

NEW YORK LATEST

Sterling \$1.4175

Dollar DM 2.7395

INTERNATIONAL

ECU 577/397

SDR £0.734512

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:

Bank base rates 9

Finance houses base rate 9½

Discount market loans week fixed 9½-9

3 month interbank 9½-9¾

Euro-currency rates:

3 month dollar 9½-9¾

3 month DM 5½-5¾

3 month Fr F15½-15

US rates

Bank prime rate 11.00

Fed funds 9½

Treasury long bond 101-101½

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):

am \$383.80 pm \$383.00

close \$382.25-383.75 (£269.25-269.75)

New York latest: \$378.75

Kruggerrand (per coin):

\$394.50-396 (£277.25-278.25)

Sovereigns (new):

\$90-91 (£63.25-64)

Excludes VAT

Goode Durrant & Murray

Group plc

Chairman Lionel Robinson reports on the results to 31st October, 1983

	1983	1982
Turnover	£64,521,000	£61,487,000
Profit before tax	£2,623,000	£2,767,000
Earnings per share	6.1p	7.6p
Dividend	1.25p	1p
Net assets per ordinary share	57.6p	51.1p
Shareholders' funds	£14,338,000	£12,788,000

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(now EXXON FINANCE N.V.)

8% Guaranteed Debentures Due 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of March 15, 1971 providing for the above Debentures, said Debentures aggregating \$2,500,000 principal amount have been selected for redemption on March 15, 1984 through operation of the Sinking Fund at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date, as follows:

Outstanding Debentures of \$1,000 each of prefix "M" bearing the distinctive numbers ending in any of the following two digits:

01 05 10 15 20 35 50 55 60 65 71 75 76 82 87 88

Also Debentures of \$1,000 each of prefix "M" bearing the following serial numbers:

1 2198 4798 7498 8098 13198 17098 31098 32798 37698

5 2798 4898 7798 8898 16098 18198 21698 24698 28698

Payment will be made upon presentation and surrender of the above Debentures with coupons due March 15, 1984 and subsequent coupons due at the main office of any of the following:

Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 30 West Broadway, New York, 10013; Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Franklin and Main, London, Paris and Zurich; Comptoir Riomagnole S.p.A. in Milan and Rome; Bank Mees & Hope N.V. in Amsterdam; and Kredietbank S.A. Luxembourg in Luxembourg. Coupons due March 15, 1984 should be detached and collected in the usual manner.

APPOINTMENTS

New chiefs for Willis Faber & Dumas

Willis Faber & Dumas Mr R. N. Bowes has become chairman and Mr R. J. Elliott and Mr D. J. Martin have been made deputy chairmen. Mr R. G. Dixon, Mr M. D. T. Faber, Mr M. A. Hedley and Mr M. C. White have joined the board. Mr D. G. Shaw has been appointed chairman of the group's international division.

Steel Brothers Holdings: Mr Peter Paice has been made an executive director from April 30.

Manson Finance Trust: Mr L. C. Quirk has become executive chairman in place of Mr John Mowat who has retired. Mr Quirk will also take Mr Mowat's place as chairman of the subsidiaries which include Edward Manson and Company and Manson Factors.

Belfast International: Mr David Brockhurst, formerly finance director, has been appointed managing director.

Wardley London: Mr Michael Hamer has joined the boards of Wardley London Holdings and Wardley London. Mr Hamer will be in charge of corporate finance department. Mr Andrew Skinner has been appointed to the board of Wardley London.

J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co: Mr Jean Solandt has become a joint vice-chairman. Mr Adam Broadbent, a director of Schroder Wagg, has been appointed head of corporate finance.

Thomson Regional Newspapers: Mr R. Ridley-Thomas, managing director of Aberdeen Journals, is appointed managing director of the Scotsman Publications. Edinburgh, publishers of *The Scotsman* and the *Evening News*. Mr J. A. Logan has been made managing director of Aberdeen Journals, publishers of the *Press & Journal* and the *Evening Express*.

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Insurance hit by rumours

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began Jan 30. Dealings end Today. Contango Day, Feb 13. Settlement Day, Feb 20.

A chill wind ran through the big insurance composites yesterday amid rumours that one leading analyst had decided to downgrade profits of Commercial Union for the year.

The rumours proved unfounded, but the composite sector never recovered from tumbling 6p to 176p, General Accident 8p to 43sp, Guardian Royal Exchange 4p to 526p, Phoenix Assurance 3p to 438p, Royal Insurance 7p to 518p and Sun Alliance £3/16 to £13 15/16.

Sentiment was not helped by the details of the cost to property during January's storms. The British Insurance Association has put the cost as high as £70m. It was the worst set of figures for two years when blizzards and flooding cost the insurance companies a cool

Broker Montagu, Loeb Stanley, reckons any self-respecting oil portfolio is not complete without "substantial long term holdings" in Clyde Petroleum. Sales of its non-oil interests have left the group with a strong balance sheet to cope with the sector's risk/return and developments - including farm-ins and Witch Farm - could result in a significant re-rating. The shares lost 2p to 121p.

£250m. The BIA calculates CU will have to fork out about £10m, GRE £8m, Royal 10m to £12m and Sun Alliance about £11m. Broker Wood Mackenzie says these figures are way below that of 1982, but will still make a significant impact on first quarter figures from the composites.

The Lloyd's insurance brokers fared little better. Stewart Wrightson lost 8p at 313p, Willis Faber 3p at 689p, C.E. Heath 4p at 351p and Hogg Robinson 3p at 163p. Minet Holdings ended the day 1p shy at 143p, after 142p, as a line of 300,000 shares that had been

overhanging the market was finally cleared.

Elsewhere, the jobbers decided to again call prices sharply lower, following Wall Street's worst performance for over 15 months with the Dow Jones average plumping 24 points. But prices did recover and the FT Index closed only 3.7 down at 80.3 having been 15.4 off earlier in the day.

Conditions were described as tense with investors clearly in no mood to open new positions with just two days of the account left to run.

One dealer complained the market had spent more time watching events in New York than conducting its own business: "All the way up we ignored Wall Street, but now the bubble has burst we hang on to every move downwards", he said.

Among blue chips Boots slid 5p to 169p as a line of 1.5 million shares went through the market first thing at the 163p level. There was a vendor placing of 4.9 million shares in Fisons completed by broker Hoare Govett at 725p a share to raise £35m for its latest US acquisition. Fisons lost 18p at 744p.

Losses were also seen in Ashtead-Lyons 1p to 149p, Associated Dairies 4p to 144p, BICC 7p to 258p, Blue Circle Industries 6p to 420p, Bowater 4p to 262p, Courtaulds 3p to 134p, GEC 4p to 176p, GKN 3p to 193p, Hawker Siddeley 4p to 404p, ICI 4p to 592p, Marks & Spencer 3p to 220p, P & O Deferred 3p to 264p, Plessey 4p to 204p, TI Group 4p to 202p and Trusthouse Forte 3p to 180p.

Only a few managed to resist the trend such as BTR rising 4p to 417p, Cadbury Schweppes 3p to 417p, Grand Metropolitan 5p to 338p, Imperial Group 2p to 154p, after figures, and Thorn-EMI 2p to 616p. Glaxo

managed to close all square at 755p.

The gilt-edged market gave up 25p at the longer end of the market with the Chancellor's optimistic remarks about the economy making little impact. The new tap £1,000m of Exchequer 9½ 1998 opened at a discount in first time dealings as had been widely predicted. It closed 5p lower at £24% in its partly paid form.

There was renewed speculative support for Ladbrooke, up 7p at 243p. The market is eagerly awaiting news of a bid - possibly from Bass unchanged at 305p. Both companies were unavailable for comment.

Lourho, another company tipped as a likely suitor for Ladbrooke closed 1p up at 129p after revealing pretax profits up from £75m to £113.2m. But the

British Home Stores' two new assistant managing directors, Mr Dennis Cassidy and Mr James Power, have been visiting brokers' offices getting to know the group's strategy. Broker Grieveson Grant is now looking for an increase in pretax profits this year from £49m to £58m followed by £63m next year. On a p/e of 16, the shares look undervalued compared with Marks & Spencer on a p/e of 22. The shares slipped 2p to 22.2p.

takeover talk in Grattan, the mail order group, appears to have died down for the time being as the shares slipped 4p to 78p, at one stage, before recovering to 76p, a net loss on the day of 2p.

The leading high street banks appeared mixed at the close with Barclays Bank climbing 5p to 517p and National Westminster 8p to 717p, but Lloyds Bank closed unchanged at 549p and Midland lost 5p at 392p.

Royal Bank of Scotland slipped 6p to 212p and Bank of Scotland lost 5p to 640p.

The discount houses lost ground in line with the rest of the market as Alexander's Discount closed 3p to 399p, Cater Allen Holdings 5p to 453p, Gerard & National 3p to 299p, Jessel Toyabees 1p to 84p, King & Shaxson 1p to 127p, Seccombe Marshall 5p to 265p and Union Discount 5p to 698p.

Oil shares recovered from a higher start to close mostly higher on the day in thin conditions. Burmah stood out with a rise of 8p to 189p, after 176p. Amoco rose 3p to 86p, Dome Petroleum 10p to 250p, Hunting Petroleum 2p to 154p, KCA Drilling 2p to 36p and Berkeley Exploration 1p to 121p.

Once again most of the attention was turned to those companies North Sea oil interests. The big groups were given the cold shoulder. BP slipped 2p to 431p, British was unchanged at 233p, after 225p. Lassie was down 13p to 305p. Shell 20p to 598p and Ultramar 17p to 642p. Tricestral also fell 7p to 196p on news of the retrenchment of its US interests. Among the Irish oil explorers Aran Energy rose 4p to 73p, Atlantic Resources 2p to 558p and Bula Resources 2p to 27p.

Shares of Walter Lawrence slipped 2p to 230p following a vendor placing of 1.2 million shares by broker Hoare Govett. There was a similar placing of 3 million shares in Sunlight Services, down 10p at 210p, in order to finance the group's purchase of its shares in Spring Grove.

Stores group A. Caird rose 2p to 50p after hours following the news. Panther Securities, a privately-owned investment company, had sold its 5 per cent stake, amounting to £63,000, to an unknown buyer outside the market.

Brewery shares had a few bright spots with Matthew Brown rising 2p to 210p.

Now Cable has eyes on China

By Jonathan Davis
Financial Correspondent

Mr Eric Sharp, chairman of Cable & Wireless, confirmed yesterday that a key factor behind his company's bid for the Hongkong Telephone Company was its desire to expand its operations in China.

"I have no doubt that opportunities will occur (in China) and they will be facilitated by our takeover of the telephone company," he said in Hongkong. The new opportunities would not just be confined to Guangdong province, where Cable & Wireless has already signed two joint ventures with the Chinese Government in the last 18 months.

Another Cable & Wireless director, Mr Brian Pemberton, said that the company would also be seeking to change the scheme of control under which Hongkong Telephone operates. Under the scheme approved by the Hongkong Government, the company's profits are limited to a 16 per cent return on shareholders' funds after taxation. "We feel that it is an overly tight scheme of control and could be relaxed", Mr Pemberton said.

The board of Hongkong Telephone is advising its shareholders to hang on to their shares as an investment, even though Cable & Wireless has successfully raised its stake

in the second EEC.

In the second EEC, acquiring a 16 per cent holding in Combustion Developments, a Derbyshire-based instrumentation company, and is providing £100,000 of second round finance.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES

Three months 1084.50-1086.50
Tone, Easter 9.300-9.300
Coffee, cacao, sugar, in pounds per
tonne, £/tonne per metric ton.

Gas-oil in US \$ per metric ton.

RUBBER

March 900-920

Apr 890-917

Jun 880-900

Oct 870-900

Dec 860-880

Mar 850-870

Jun 840-860

Oct 830-850

Dec 820-840

Mar 810-830

Jun 800-820

Oct 790-810

Dec 780-800

Mar 770-790

London International Financial Futures & Options Exchange Ltd. Settlement

Three months 3276-3290

T/2 3283-3292

Tone, Spring 9.300-9.300

Gas-oil in US \$ per metric ton.

RUBBER

March 184.00-184.40

Apr 189.40-189.40

Jun 189.40-189.40

Oct 189.40-189.40

Dec 189.40-189.40

Mar 189.40-189.40

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Dear shareholders,
The overall results of Lonrho show a healthy rise of 103% in both profit attributable to shareholders and earnings per share; this is the highest increase for seventeen years.

Lonrho has achieved an enormous amount this year which is reflected, not only in a substantial increase in profitability, but also in the Group balance sheet which remains strong with gross assets approaching £1.9 billion, including cash balances at the year end standing at £109 million. Total net borrowings, excluding those relating to our confirming businesses, have remained at 30% of gross assets which is the same as last year.

A great deal of management effort has gone into increasing efficiency throughout the Group; these efforts have included the disposal of loss-making and low yielding operations such as Hadfields, the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, and the Sunday Standard Newspaper in Glasgow.

I am glad to tell you that our United Kingdom based companies raised profits by over 78% in 1983, and were a major contributor to the overall rise. This improvement has been shared by nearly all trading activities within the United Kingdom and is not limited to a few. Every indication is that our United Kingdom companies will continue to increase in prosperity.

Our traditional activities of agriculture and mining have performed very well this year, which is not only attributable to improved commodity prices, but is also as a result of reduced operating costs and, in most areas, increased production.

The hotel and casino divisions are showing good growth within Lonrho, and these divisions have been expanded through the opening of the new Marquesa Tower at the Acapulco Princess in Mexico and the opening of two new casinos, one in London and the Princess Casino in the Bahamas.

Capital expenditure this year has been restricted to the minimum necessary to maintain our assets at their highest operating efficiency, and we have not undertaken any large long term projects.

We also benefit from a substantial increase in House of Fraser's profits and share price. Lonrho's share price is near 30% holding in House of Fraser and the contribution and stimulus provided to the management of the company by our Directors has undoubtedly assisted in this improvement. The House of Fraser share price continues to reflect the general belief, by shareholders, that the demerger of Harrods is desirable.

The 180 mile pipeline between Beira and Mutare is fully restored and has been pumping fuel to Zimbabwe steadily throughout the year without interruption.

The Lonrho Group, including our associated companies, now employs over 150,000 people.

I know you will want to join all Members of the Board in expressing your appreciation for all the hard work and initiative contributed by those who work for Lonrho both in the United Kingdom and overseas and who have made this year so successful with their support. We have adequate reasons in the first quarter's figures to feel that 1984 will continue an upward trend for the Company as a whole.

MINING AND REFINING

Improved precious metal prices prevailed over the year, which also saw platinum carry a premium over gold. Moreover, we again raised our platinum group metal output to 180,000 ounces for the year and are now producing some 50% more than two years ago. Group gold production was well maintained at the 400,000 ounce per year level.

Glass lined reactor vessel, Western Platinum, Brakpan

Although precious metal prices continued to fluctuate, favourable exchange rates in all countries where we operate mines have so far cushioned any adverse effect.

Additional refining facilities are being planned for our platinum operations designed to release the large sums which are now locked up for long periods in unrefined inventories. At the same time these changes will save operating costs and improve metal recoveries.

Good progress has been made with the development of Eastern Gold Holdings, the major new Anglo American Corporation administered mine, which planned to produce 400,000 ounces of gold annually at full production. Our subsidiary continues to hold its 36% interest in this venture. We are also planning the expansion of operations at the Ashanti Gold Mine in Ghana using loans from a consortium led by the International Finance Corporation.

Revenue from bituminous coal and anthracite mining was only slightly down in spite of a sharp reduction of sales, in line with the present weakness of coal markets. Capital expenditure at the coal mines was substantially at the level of recent years.

"Lonrho's attributable profit is up 103% in 1983"

AN UPWARD TREND WILL CONTINUE IN 1984

R W Rowland, Chief Executive

AGRICULTURE

Lonrho and its subsidiaries are Africa's largest commercial food producers, ranching 100,000 head of cattle and farming 1.5 million acres throughout the continent. The Group has also put more land under cultivation in Africa than any other company in the world.

Aerial spraying, Malawi

Our seven sugar estates in Malawi, Mauritius, South Africa and Swaziland returned to overall profitability during the year and increased production to over 420,000 tonnes.

In Zambia, our farming company, Kalangwa Estates, remains one of the largest producers of agricultural goods in the country, with products such as pork, beef, eggs, onions, wheat, maize and potatoes. Although export markets were generally difficult, good progress was made in a number of overseas markets,

The drought in Zimbabwe had little effect on the profitability of our agricultural activities. With livestock being in good condition and high average weights being achieved, profits from the sale of 14,500 head of cattle were good. Profit from The Wattle Company, which produces coffee, wattle extract and timber, were also substantially higher, due to better management controls and good coffee prices. We are the largest coffee producers in Zimbabwe.

In Malawi our tea estates produced a record crop of 4.8 million kilogrammes. A combination of good rainfall distribution, improved field practices and management skills produced some yields which are probably the highest in Malawi. The combination of high tea prices and production has resulted in profits being substantially up. We also grow tobacco, coffee and macadamia nuts in that country.

Our wattle extract company in Kenya, which also grows mushrooms, oil seed, wheat and maize and ranches cattle, maintained its reputation for high yields and good quality produce and continues to be a major exporter.

HOTELS

The Princess Hotel Group in their first full year as wholly owned subsidiaries, continued to achieve record profits. In October 1982 the new 320 room Marquesa Tower at the Acapulco Princess was opened, complementing the existing hotel which is a masterpiece of creative architecture. This luxury hotel complex, which is set in over 200 acres, has proved an extremely popular tourist and conference centre, maintaining high levels of occupancy.

In September it was announced that the Group had acquired a casino in Freeport in the Bahamas. It is intended to renovate completely the casino complex, which will form part of the existing Princess hotel facilities, in order to establish it as one of the finest casinos in the Caribbean.

The Princess Hotel Group now have more hotel rooms in the locations at which they operate than any of their competitors.

Acapulco Princess Hotel, Mexico

The Princess Casino, Bahamas

In the United Kingdom the Metropole Hotel Group held a record 1,050 conferences and exhibitions in 1983. The new Pembroke in Blackpool, in its first full year of operation, has proved a success with 150 conferences and exhibitions being held there. The Pembroke has also achieved a room occupancy level of 70% and is fully booked over the next two years for periods when party political conferences are held in Blackpool.

In Birmingham 575 conferences were staged and for this coming year the signs are that we will accommodate many more.

The London Metropole was busy during the year with its room occupancy reaching 88%.

Improvements to the hotel's facilities this year will yield results in 1984.

In the Casino division the most exciting event of the year was the opening of a new casino in London. This luxurious casino has made a very good start. Lonrho operates 8 other casinos in the United Kingdom.

WINES AND SPIRITS

Whyte & Mackay Distillers had another satisfactory year.

Although the United Kingdom industry as a whole continued to operate in highly competitive conditions, Whyte & Mackay maintained its dominant position in Scotland and increased its distribution throughout England. Although export markets were generally difficult, good progress was made in a number of overseas markets,

Whyte & Mackay whisky, Glasgow

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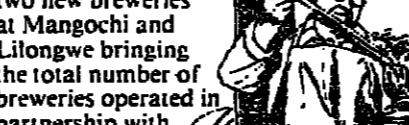
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The Princess Casino, Bahamas

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manufacture of knitted fabrics for use in both industrial and leisurewear products. Besco Barley successfully completed a modernisation programme at its mill in Rochedale.

Our textile companies in Africa had a mixed year. In Malawi, David Whitehead achieved good results while completing ahead of schedule the installation of Malawi's only cotton/polyester cloth manufacturing plant.

The newly equipped Blantyre Netting Company exceeded all our expectations and working at full production to meet local and export demand for polyester bags, nets and twine. David Whitehead in Zimbabwe had a difficult year with demand severely restricted. Following reorganisation the company is now better placed to react to changes in local demand.

PRINTING AND PUBLISHING

In the year under review the Glasgow Herald's entry into its third century of continuous publication was highlighted by the visit of Her Majesty The Queen.

YEAR AT A GLANCE

	1983	1982
Turnover	£2356.5m	£2336.2m
Profit before taxation	£113.2m	£75.1m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£40.6m	£20.0m
Earnings per share	15.5p	7.6p
Cash balances	£109.4m	£56.3m

The seventy-fifth Annual General Meeting of Lonrho Plc will be held at the Great Room, Grosvenor House, Park Lane, W1 on Thursday, 29th March, 1984 at 12 noon.

Harrods

The 'all new' Golf from Volkswagen

Major reorganisation at George Outram has resulted in improvements in the Glasgow Herald, Scotland's leading national newspaper, and the Evening Times. It is encouraging to see improving performances in both advertising and circulation in recent months.

The Observer, which is the oldest Sunday newspaper in Britain, and was voted Newspaper of the Year for 1982, has performed well during 1983.

Our provincial newspaper group, Scottish and Universal News, experienced another difficult trading year during which the economy was still recession.

The key themes of the year have been efficiency and innovation. Every week over one million readers in Scotland read a Scottish and Universal newspaper.

Throughout the year, our newspapers won national and international awards for research and community services.

Greenaway - Harrison, one of the country's leading printing houses, has had a very successful year. The programme of capital expenditure to ensure the most advanced facilities and techniques for financial and security printing has progressed well. The extensive computer typesetting installations in this company, built up over the last few years, are unmatched by any other commercial, financial or city printer. The highly skilled design unit based in central London has won domestic and international credits and awards for its work.

The Harrison Group, postage stamp and security specialists, continued its programme of capital investment in

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new product development and new areas of specialisation.

Harrison's were proud to print, for the British Post Office, stamps which won two top international philatelic awards.

The educational publishing and bookselling divisions of Holmes McDougall gained important new export contracts and the reorganisation of its colour poster operations in the United States has been highly successful.

High quality label printing for the wine and spirits industry performed well and a number of major new contracts were obtained.

Holmes McDougall were awarded the publishing contract for "Crime, Law and Society" by the Home Office.

The Group also publishes newspapers in Kenya including The Standard and Standard.

ENGINEERING

The recession in the United Kingdom continued to affect most of our engineering companies during the first half of 1983. However, there are signs that the modest recovery in the economy which began in the summer will continue.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

A new source of finance

A new-style finance for unquoted companies, particularly smaller ones, is available with the launching of a £7.35m fund in a joint venture by Hoare Govett, the stockbrokers and Candover Investments, the management buy-out specialists Derek Harris writes.

The Hoare Govett Exempt Fund, because the investors in it are all pension funds and charities, is not travelled by the investment timing difficulties which are part of the proliferating Business Expansion Scheme funds.

The idea of funds channelling institutional money and run by a quality management team with a good track record has been exploited considerably in the United States but hardly at all in Britain, says Roger Brooks, Candover's chief executive.

A new company, Hoare Candover, will be set up and manage with a Candover team doing the field work of evaluation, negotiation and monitoring of investments.

In just over three years Candover has made 14 investments in Britain, mostly in management buy-outs, and the majority of them are said to be making good progress.

Some 25 institutions have invested in the new fund.

Minimum investment by the new fund will be around £100,000 and not more than £750,000 (10 per cent of the fund). It will be ready to support high technology ventures but Candover's thinking until now has been more to invest in medium technology companies.

The new fund will be looking to companies that aim to go for a listing either on the Unlisted Securities Market (USM) or the Stock Exchange within five years.

A management fee of one per cent will be levied on the fund by Hoare Govett and Candover together. More unusually, each will have an obligation to inject 7.5 per cent into the fund.

● Contact: Hoare Candover Exempt Fund, 47 Red Lion Court, London, EC1A 7EB; telephone (01) 58090.

■ To make it easier for small businesses to bid for Government contracts new simplified forms are to be introduced in June.

It is part of a drive by Mr David Trippier, minister for small businesses, to simplify a wide range of forms and he is expected to make more progress with other form-filling later this year.

The Jura improvement concerns forms calling for general information about a company and its finances.

At present companies seeking Government contracts have to fill in fresh forms on every individual approach to Government departments. From June, one standard questionnaire, cast in a more simplified form, will be filled in once for an initial contract and will then be valid for all subsequent trading between a company and any Government department.

Next in line for improvement will probably be forms which seek details about a company's technical capacity and facilities like factory space and warehousing.

Mr Trippier said: "The forms

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Mr Trippier said:

Cooking outwith day care attendance allowance

[Speeches delivered February 9]

The requirement of another person's assistance in preparing meals was not an element of "attention... in connection with bodily functions". The House of Lords so held dismissing an appeal by Mrs Nonna Parks Woolford from a decision of Mr Justice Woolf who refused to reverse by prerogative order decisions of the Attendance Allowance Board and the Social Security Commissioner who had held that the appellant was not in law entitled to an attendance allowance under section 35 of the Social Security Act 1975.

The judge certified pursuant to section 12 of the Administration of Justice Act 1969 that a point of law of general public importance was involved in the decision and that that point was one in respect of which he was bound by the decision of the Court of Appeal in *A v National Insurance Commissioner, Ex parte Secretary of State for Social Services* [1981] 1 WLR 1017 (Tucker's case).

Section 35(1) of the 1975 Act provides: "A person shall be entitled to an attendance allowance if he satisfies prescribed conditions as to residence or presence in Great Britain and either - (a) he is so severely disabled physically or mentally that, by day, he requires from another person frequent attention throughout the day in connection with his bodily functions"; At first blush that language did not fit the person whose physical disablement only prevented him from preparing his own meals.

If one had to break down and attempt to analyse the language three points needed emphasis. First, the disablement must be severe. Second, the phrase "bodily functions" was a restricted and precise one, narrower than, for example, "bodily needs". Third, the phrase "attention... in connection with bodily functions", which must be read as a whole, connotated a high degree of physical intimacy between the person giving and the person receiving the attention.

The correct criterion was contained in the words of Mr Commissioner Monroe in 1974 and cited by Lord Justice Dunn in *Packer's case* that "the words of the section refer to a person who needs the relevant degree of attention in connection with the performance of his bodily functions... that are necessary to his own existence when the fit man normally performs himself". Accordingly, the restricted construction was the correct one.

Lord Diplock, Lord Scarman, Lord Roskill and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook agreed.

Solicitors: Outred & Co for Kirk

Jackson & Co, Swinton; Solicitor,

Department of Health and Social

Security.

LORD BRIDGE said that a person requiring attention only by day or only by night received an attendance allowance at one rate, a person requiring attention both by day and by night at a higher rate.

The sole criticism of the decision of the delegat

ed medical practitioner (dealing with the function delegated to him by the Attendance Allowance Board) was that, in concluding that the appellant was not entitled to attention by day under section 35(1)(a) (no claim for attention at night having been made), he erred in failing to consider the question of whether the appellant's assistance of another person's assistance in preparing her meals as an element of "attention... in connection with bodily functions".

The scope of the provision in its context had been a matter of controversy for some time. The legislation assumed its present form in 1972.

The Court of Appeal was told in

Packer's case that until 1979 it was the universal practice of delegated medical practitioners to exclude

cooking from the relevant "attention... in connection with bodily functions".

The point of construction was a short one, a difficult one and as a history of the controversy about it had shown, a point on which different minds could fairly take different views. It was largely a question of impression and did not admit elaborate argument or analysis.

First, it was clear that the policy underlying section 35 stopped short of providing an attendance allowance for all who were incapable of looking after themselves without some outside help even if that help was frequently required.

Very large areas of domestic work required of which the disabled were incapable dependent. If others were deliberately excluded, if cooking was the one domestic chore that qualified, it was, in a sense, the odd man out.

Again, it seemed a reasonable inference that the policy of the enactment was to provide a financial incentive to encourage families or friends to undertake the difficult and sometimes distasteful task of caring within the home for those who were so severely disabled that they could otherwise become a charge on some public institution.

The language of the section should be considered as a whole, and such consideration would be more likely to reveal the intention than an attempt to analyse each word or phrase separately.

The totality of the language to be

Employer of jewel thief liable for loss

Nahabs (formerly Hicks) v Pier House (Cheyne Walk) Management Ltd and Another

Before Mr Denis Henry, QC

[Judgment delivered February 11]

A company of which the duty was to manage a block of flats would be vicariously liable for the fraud of an employee employed by it who had used a key given to him by a tenant to gain entry to her flat and steal property belonging to her.

Mr Denis Henry QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Queen's Bench Division, so held in a reserved judgment awarding the plaintiff, Mrs Anne Elizabeth Nahabs, damages of £23,250 in respect of jewelry stolen from her by an employee of the first defendant, Pier House (Cheyne Walk) Management Ltd. The second defendant was Harold Williams Bennett & Partners, estate agents.

Mr Daniel Serota for the plaintiff;

Mr John Ford for the defendants.

His LORDSHIP said that both defendants had been negligent in their recruitment procedures and that, had they checked the information given them by the porter, they would have discovered

that he was a professional thief and would not have employed him.

In any event, the first defendant, whose employee the thief had been, was vicariously liable for his fraud because it had been committed in breach of the first defendant's duty to protect the plaintiff's flat and to protect the plaintiff's keys, the performance of which it had delegated to the thief. It made no difference that the first defendant was not a bailee of the property stolen.

The plaintiff had not been insured in respect of most of the loss but insurance brokers, acting from a mixture of benevolence and commercial motives, had, after the theft, paid the plaintiff a sum equivalent to her uninsured loss on condition that she sue the defendants and pay any damages recovered to them.

Mr Justice Peter Pann, so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 9, giving judgment on the first defendant, Mr Mainul Akbar, who, it was said, had brought him and his son, Mr Abdul Akbar, when aged 14, to the plaintiff's home to help him and his son, Mr John Ford, for the defendants.

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Guidance on remitting to juvenile court for sentence

Regina v Lewis (Michael)

Before Lord Justice, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice McCowan and Mr Justice Leggett

[Judgment delivered January 31]

Guidance about the effect of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 on the need to remit convicted juveniles to a juvenile court for sentence was given by the Lord Chief Justice delivering judgment dismissing an appeal by Michael Lewis, aged 16, from a sentence of five years' detention imposed under section 53(2) of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 by Judge Cohen at Newcastle on Tyne Crown Court.

The appeal, when tried 15, had been remitted to the juvenile court for sentence.

The difficulty had arisen in crown courts over the effect of the Criminal Justice Act 1982, which adopted a different approach to that of the juvenile court.

By that Act a juvenile court, as well as the crown court, was entitled to remit convicted juveniles to a juvenile court for sentence - maximum of six months for one offence and maximum aggregate of 12 months - sections 6 and 7 and section 24(3) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 as amended by Schedule 14 to the 1982 Act; and community service orders for 16 year olds in certain circumstances - section 68 and Schedule 12.

The effect was an alignment of the juvenile court and the crown court in which to deal with juveniles now seemed to the Lordships to be out of place.

Mr Euan Duff, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said that the Criminal Justice Act 1982 did not affect the juvenile court's jurisdiction.

Possible reasons for this could be

that the judge who presided over the trial would be better informed about the facts and circumstances that there was, in the sad and frequent experience of the Court of Appeal, a risk of unacceptable disparity if defendants were to be sentenced in different courts on different occasions; that, as a result of the alignment, there would be duplication of proceedings and fruitless expense; and the provisions for appeals, which were from crown court convictions to the Court of Appeal; and from orders made in the juvenile court, an appeal to the crown court.

However, it might become desirable to remit the case where a report had to be obtained and the judge would be unable to sit when it became available. That situation, however, could be avoided whenever possible, for example, by the committing justices giving directions that reports be obtained before the trial.

His LORDSHIP reviewed the historical background, from the Children Act 1908 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1969, and said that, after 1969, unless the crown court and its predecessors considered it appropriate to deal with a juvenile in a manner which was beyond the powers of a juvenile court, or by discharge, fine or bond, the juvenile would be remitted to a juvenile court. *R v Remitter* [1981] 3 Cr App R (S) 78 and *R v Bailey* [1982] 4 Cr App R (S) 176.

Mr Euan Duff, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant.

His LORDSHIP said that the

juvenile court had been adopted

by the judge who presided over the trial.

His LORDSHIP said that the

second defendant had admitted

liability for the plaintiff's injury, but the first defendant was also liable because he had given his son no instruction or warning about the use of candles, knowing that there were candles present in the house.

Mr Justice Peter Pann, so held in the Queen's Bench Division on February 9, giving judgment on the first defendant, Mr Mainul Akbar, who, it was said, had brought him and his son, Mr Abdul Akbar, when aged 14, to the plaintiff's home to help him and his son, Mr John Ford, for the defendants.

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The plaintiff had not been insured

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Figures support Board's case

By Michael Seely

The Harry Bardsley and Billy Neweas case has highlighted the importance of the dispute between the Horserace Betting Levy Board and the bookmakers which is now before the Home Secretary for adjudication. The board are seeking an increase in levy rates, not only to keep prize money stable but to ensure that there is no further cutback in the integrity services and other crucial areas.

In the 22nd levy scheme which is now in operation a reduction of seven per cent was agreed between the Levy Board and the bookmakers because of forecasts of falling turnover and profitability. The Levy Board considered these forecasts to be too pessimistic and that there was evidence of an underlying upward trend in turnover and a possibility in increased profitability in 1983.

The half-yearly reports from Ladbrokes and William Hill supported the Levy Board's opinion. For the six months ending July 1983, Ladbrokes showed a 10 per cent increase in turnover compared to the same period in 1982, with betting heading the trading recovery. Hill's profits rose from £2.8m to £3.7m for the corresponding periods.

Neither side will comment at the moment as the matter is *sub judice*. The Home Secretary's decision is expected before the end of the year. However, the Levy Board's case has already been stated. They have already made significant expenditure reductions, including prize money, and loans for racecourse improvements have also been reduced.

It is also considered that there is an urgent need for the application of additional resources for the protection of the integrity of racing. Other areas which need financial assistance are veterinary, training and education, and improvements on racecourses, particularly to improve safety standards, and the British Racing School.

The bookmakers' argument is that Ladbrokes and Hills are not necessarily representative of the industry as a whole. They would also argue that these profits were made partly because of increased efficiency and partly because of the freak weather last spring which upset the form book.

Their main case, however, lies in the fact that the levy is based on turnover and not on profitability. There the increase would only be in the region of one per cent. The bookmakers therefore see no reason why the levy should be increased to the extent demanded.

However, no one can possibly deny that racing was badly hit by the recession. Bookmakers are now reaping the benefit of the economic recovery and it only seems equitable that they should share part of these benefits with the industry from which they derive their livelihood.

Top sire sold

Halo, leading sire in the United States in 1983 with 45 winners of 84 races with \$2,739,270 (£1.9m), has been sold to a group from Texas headed by Tom Tatham and Ben Morris for \$3.6m.

Newbury

Going: chase; hurdles; good, soft

Tote: double 2.30, 3.30. Treble 2.0, 3.0, 4.0

1.30 ALDERSTON CHASE (novices: £2,087: 2m 160yd) (15 runners)

101 9-2111 GREEN BRAMBLE (Lady Plume) N Henderson 7-1-11

102 10-1111 GOLDEN FRIEND (D Morda) Mrs M Rimmer 8-11-9

103 10-2110 AREUS (Mrs S Samuel) F Winter 8-11-3

104 12-2112 AUTUMN CHASE (E Rawlinson) D Stevenson 7-1-13

105 12-2113 BRIGHTON CHASE (D Rawlinson) J 8-11-3

106 12-2114 CHARMIN (D Murray) A Moore 8-11-3

107 12-2115 MEISTERSTRIK (J Hartings) M Francis 8-11-3

108 12-2116 RHYTHM STICK (R Rawlinson) M Rawlinson 7-1-3

109 12-2117 SPANNING STREAM (B British Thoroughbred) P Walwyn 7-1-3

110 12-2118 SWINGLETIES (B British Thoroughbred) P Walwyn 7-1-3

111 12-2119 TREVIS WAY (G Hulme) A Jarvis 7-1-3

112 12-2120 CONNAUGHT RIVER (Mrs J Mould) D Nicholson 5-10-10

120 12-2121 NEUTRY LESS (S G Groves) S Smith 8-10-10

121 12-2122 100-30 Bright Classics 7-2: Golden Friend, 5 Green Bramble, 7 Swingleties, 8 Connaught River, 10 Connaught, 12 Sun, 12 Autumn Sun, 12 Spanish Steel, 20 others.

2.0 THATCHAM CHASE (£1,762: 2m 4f) (6)

205 3-2114 BEHINY'S BOY (A Norden) A Morris 11-11-7

206 3-2115 GAMBLING PRINCE (Mrs G Jones) Mrs S Jones 11-11-3

211 3-2116 CAPTAIN DYNAMO (C D) Mrs D Nicholson 8-11-2

212 3-2117 CHARTERHOUSE (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-3

213 3-2118 STATECATD (C) (C Barritt) G Gandy 11-1-9

214 3-2119 GALILEO (Mrs S Thomson) R Armitage 8-10-4

215 3-2120 GINGER (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-3

216 3-2121 HILL OF SLANE (Mrs J Mould) J Hodges 8-10-9

217 3-2122 14-30 Pridouce Boy, 5 Glitterback, King's 8 Deep Impression, 1 Wyford, Lucky Jason, 14 Harbour Master, Sign Again, 16 Endingspin, 20 Ashes, 25 others.

3.0 STRoud GREEN HURDLE (Grade II: 4-yo: £4,833: 2m 100yd) (8)

304 111 SON OF A GUNNER (D Morda) S Morda 8-11-5

305 112 STATEMANSHIP (D Morda) P Bailey 11-1-5

306 113 CHILCOWEN (P Chilcott-Turner) N Henderson 11-1-0

307 114 COMEDY FAIR (Mrs A Morris) M H Eastley 11-1-0

308 115 EASTERN LEG (Mrs H) D Stevenson 10-10-11

309 116 FANTASTIC (Mrs A Morris) A Morris 10-1-10

310 117 AMBONIT (H Hodges) Mrs J Hodges 10-9-8

311 118 3-2-2 Son of A Gunner, 5 Oregon Trail, Statesmanship, 8 Comedy Fair, 10 J Chidlow, 7-2 Son of A Gunner, 5 Oregon Trail, Statesmanship, 8 Comedy Fair, 10

3.0 HARWELL CHASE (handicap: £3,023: 3m) (16)

405 111 BROMPTON B (D) (C J Lumsden 8-1-12)

406 112 BROMPTON B (D) (C J Lumsden 8-1-12)

407 113 STRANDWELL (C) (D Rawlinson) R Armitage 13-11-2

408 114 SPECIAL CARGO (Mrs J Mould) Mrs J Mould 8-11-3

409 115 MID DAY GUN (P Goff) J Winter 8-10-11

410 116 PREDATOR (P Goff) J Winter 8-10-11

411 117 SLAVE KING (Mrs J Mould) Mrs J Mould 8-10-11

412 118 14-30 PREDATOR (P Goff) J Winter 8-10-11

413 119 PITHAM (D Chidlow) D Chidlow 10-11-4

414 120 LATE NIGHT CHASE (B) (C E Phillips) K Bailey 8-10-2

415 121 4-2110 SCINTILLA BOY (Mrs H Houlbrooke) Mrs H Houlbrooke 9-10-10

416 122 4-2111 100-30 Bright Classics 7-2: Golden Friend, 5 Green Bramble, 7 Swinlettes, 8 Connaught River, 10 Connaught, 12 Sun, 12 Autumn Sun, 12 Spanish Steel, 20 others.

Ayr

Going: soft

1.45 OLD TOLL HURDLE (conditional jockeys handicap: £854: 2m 6f) (16 runners)

421121 CHETEL (R Bardsley) R Bardsley 10-11-10

424223 SOLARIS (J Berry) J Berry 4-10-7

425222 STONECASTLE (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-5

426222 SPECIAL CARGO (Mrs J Mould) Mrs J Mould 8-11-3

427222 STATECATD (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-3

428222 SWINGLETIES (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-3

429222 HILL OF SLANE (Mrs J Mould) J Hodges 8-10-9

430222 14-30 Pridouce Boy, 5 Glitterback, King's 8 Deep Impression, 1 Wyford, Lucky Jason, 14 Harbour Master, Sign Again, 16 Endingspin, 20 Ashes, 25 others.

2.0 LAGG HURDLE (Div II: novices: £784: 2m) (17)

1 1 CENTRE SECTION (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-12

2 1 GOLDFINGER (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-5

3 1 ALVIN BURN (P Morda) P Morda 8-11-5

4 1 BURGESS (P Morda) P Morda 8-11-5

5 1 BUDS-23 FIRST KNOCK (Mrs J Mould) Mrs J Mould 8-11-5

6 1 BUR MASH (Mrs T Dunn) Mrs T Dunn 8-11-5

7 1 NO CERTIFICATE (Dobbin) Dobbin 8-11-5

8 1 GOLDFINGER (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-5

9 1 BLACK FALCON (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-5

10 1 CHARONS DAUGHTER (Mrs J Mould) Mrs J Mould 8-11-5

11 1 COLEMAN (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-11-5

12 1 DICK 'N' REAR (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

13 1 FOOTWORM (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

14 1 GOLDFINGER (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

15 1 HENRY COOKING (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

16 1 KICK (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

17 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

18 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

19 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

20 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

21 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

22 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

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24 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

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26 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

27 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

28 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

29 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

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38 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

39 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

40 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

41 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

42 1 LADY'S SONG (Mrs H) Mrs H 8-10-9

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davall

BBC 1

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain**: with Nick Owen, Anne Diamond. The Friday "specials" include pop consumer advice (6.40, 9.05), Jeremy Beadle (7.05, 8.05), Postbag (7.50), Fantasy Time (8.10), Holiday spot (8.20), Weekend TV (8.35) and Diana Dors (8.45). Regular items include News (6.30, then half-hour until 8.30pm) sport (5.35, 7.35), Mel Lizz (5.50, 5.55), Morning papers (7.18 and 8.18) and Your Stars (8.43).

9.00 **My Music**: Steve Racs tests the musical knowledge of Denis Norden and Ian Wallace, and Frank Muir and John Amis (r). 9.25 **Ceefax** pages.

9.29 **Play Ideas**: 10.30 **Play School**.

9.55 **Olympic Grandstand**: live coverage from Sarajevo.

2.30 **News At Ten**: Noreen with Richard Whitehouse and France Correspondent, 12.57. **Financial Report** and sub-titled news.

1.00 **Pebble Mill at One**: Chat, and music, from the foyer studio; 1.45 **Bagpipes**.

2.00 **Olympic Grandstand**: The Ice Dance Championship, from Sarajevo. **Torvill and Dean** begin their quest for Olympic gold. Highlights of the opening three compulsory dances can be seen later this evening (6.40), plus coverage of the short programme section of the Pairs Skating Championship (Susan Garland and Ian Jenkins compete for Britain). The day's action also includes the opening rounds of the two-men bobsleigh and ice hockey (see also 10.50 tonight).

3.55 **Play School**: It's Friday; 4.20 **The Adventures of Tin Tin**: **Snorky's Return** (r); 4.25 **Totie - The Story of a Doll's House**. First part of the animated version of the Rumer Godden story.

4.40 **Wildmice**: A film about wild mink, shot by 17-year-old naturalist Jonathan Fieldhouse. Also the tough stork and the lead poisoning danger to swans. 5.05 **Grange Hill**: A fight is arranged, at a warehouse; 5.35 **The Bomp**.

5.40 **Sixty Minutes**: The fine-up is news (5.40), weather (5.54), regional magazines (5.55) and closing headlines (5.59).

5.40 **Olympic Grandstand**: Further live coverage of the Ice Dance Championship. Plus coverage of the Bobsleigh event.

7.30 **The Superstars**: The final of the Townsend Thoresen Superteams Championship. The defending champions, Rugby Union, versus the Athletes.

8.20 **Sheron and Elsie: A Round Table**: meeting puts paid to Elsie's (Brigit Forsyth) plan to spend a romantic evening at home with her husband. **Sharon (Janette Beverley)** is frightened by two crash-helmet figures.

8.40 **Points of View**: With Barry Took.

1.00 **News**: with John Humphrys.

1.25 **Remington Steele**: Laura and Remington find themselves in competition when they are hired to find a missing gem worth two million dollars.

1.15 **The Further Adventures of Lucky Jim**: with Enn Reitel as Kingsley Amis's unfortunate hero (r). 10.45 **News**.

1.50 **Olympic Grandstand**: The Pairs Figure Skating Championship - the Short Programme.

1.15 **Puzzle of a Downfall Child** (1970). Fact and fantasy get hopelessly mixed up in this fashion model (Pey Dunaway), running from her mental breakdown, looks back on her life so that a film can be made about her. With Barry Primus, Director: Jerry Schatzberg. Ends at 1.00am.

REQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/265m; 1085kHz/265m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF 90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF 92-95; BBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1545kHz/194m; VHF 95.6; BSC Radio London 1458kHz/260m; VHF 94.5; World service MF 640kHz/463m.



Michael Williams and Judi Dench: ITV, 8.30pm

1.15 **ITV/LONDON**

9.25 **Thames News Headlines**: 9.30 **Schools** (until 12.00); 9.30 **Brain power**; 9.47 **How We Used to Live**; 10.00 **Good Health** (exercise, rest, sleep); 10.25 **Spreading their Wings**; 10.45 **A Fair Wage**; 11.05 **The Night Swimmers** (3); 11.22 **Nathani: a story**; 11.39 **Il Duce (Mussolini)**.

12.00 **Jamie and the Magic Torch** for the toddlers (r); 12.10 **Rainbow** (repeated at 4.00); 12.30 **Survival: Riddle of the Lake**: The origin of the unequalled variety of fish in Lake Malawi (r).

1.00 **News at One**: 1.20, **Thames news**: 1.30 **About Britain**; **Just Keep Practising**; **World pipe band championship**, 1973, in Bellahouston Park, Glasgow. 2.00 **Just our Luck**: Comedy series about a weather man and a gnat; 2.30 **Falcon Chase**: Chase says he has evidence of Carlo Agnelli's blackmailing of Richard (r); 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**: A turning point in David's and John's relationship.

4.00 **Children's ITV**: 4.20 **Rainbow** (r); 4.20 **Battlin'**: **Cartoon**; 4.25 **Sooty: a case of loss of memory**; 4.30 **Freetime**: **Ballot**, **Valentines** and **Valentines**. 5.15 **The Young Doctors**.

5.45 **News**: 6.00 **The Six o'clock Show**: **News** stories of the lighter sort.

7.00 **The Zodiac Games**: **Archaeological fun**, with Tom O'Connor, M.C., and guest coaches Graeme Garden, Kenny Lynch, Eve Pollard, and Barbara Windsor.

7.30 **The A Team**: Another adventure starring the former Vietnam fighters turned soldiers of fortune.

8.30 **A Fine Romance**: Mike (Michael Williams) decides to clarify his on-off relationship with Laura (Judi Dench) once and for all. (See Choice).

9.00 **Auf Wiedersehen, Pet**: The final episode of this comedy series about Gerald's "brides" working in West Germany. Tonight, a number of the lads have to make important decisions about their futures. Oz, for example (Jimmy Nail) is keen to stay on - but not by himself. And Dennis (Tim Healy) is torn between Dagmar and his wife who has now ended her relationship with her lover.

10.00 **News at Ten** and **London News Headlines**.

10.30 **The London Programme**: Is London's last major industrial manufacturer, the Ford Motor Company, likely to pack its bags and leave Dagenham? Tonight's edition of the current affairs programme examines what has been happening to the car industry in Europe, and what the likely repercussions will be on the South-East of England.

11.00 **Bosom Buddies**: Amy's job in the advertising agency comes to an end.

11.30 **Plymexmas**: with John Hegley and the Politicians, and comedy entertainers Mark Steel and Helen Lederer. Final programme in this "new faces" series. Some of the acts have been exhilaratingly awful.

12.15 **Bizame**: Comedy series, with John Byner. Followed by **Can Peter Challen's Night Thoughts**.

11.30 **BBC 2**

6.05 **Open University** (until 8.10).

9.08 **Daytime on Two**: education programmes, 9.08

Fertilisation; 9.30 **Science and Money**; 9.52 **The Boy from Space**; 10.15 **Maths One**; 10.36 **Pages from Ceefax**; 11.00 **History Trail** (living in London); 11.22 **Religious and Moral Education**; 11.44 **Going to work (hairdressing)**; 12.05 **Making the Most of the Micro**; 12.30 **Microm in the Classroom**; 12.55 **Speak for Yourself**.

1.20 **Pages from Ceefax**; 1.38 **Around Scotland** (hospital); 2.01 **The Kids are OK**; 2.30 **Taking pictures (Weston film-making students in action)**.

2.51 **World Wide**: live coverage of the last quarter-final of the Embassy World Indoor Championship. Tonight: highlights, plus the first semi-final (see 11.20pm entry).

5.30 **Weekend Outlook**: **Open University trailers**.

5.35 **News**: summary; with subtitles.

5.40 **Crime**: **Murder at the Gallop** (1983) One of Agatha Christie's Miss Marple mysteries, in which the amateur sleuth (Margaret Rutherford) suspects murder when a wealthy cat-loving recluse is frightened to death by a cat, it seems. Directed by George Pollock.

6.55 **Zee**: award-winning, **National Film Board of Canada** short that was very dangerous to make.

7.05 **ORS 84**: live music from Marillion and Marilyn, and a new band called The Farm plus star guests.

7.45 **Nigeria: A Squandering of Riches**: **A World About Us** special filmed in Nigeria only a month before last December's military coup which toppled the civilian government. Nigerian singer and TV journalist Onyeaka Onwenu travels the country, capturing the mood in the crucial weeks before the coup.

8.00 **A Week in Politics**: a day in the life of an Alliance MP; and the implications of the trade union ban at GCHQ, Cheltenham.

8.40 **What the Papers Say**: Oliver Pritchett, of the Sunday Telegraph, examines the way that different papers have handled the same story.

9.00 **Dream Stuffing**: The laundrette is temporarily closed. Judge (Reuel Weaver) and Mo (Amanda Symonds) take in Bill's and Richard's washing, and the beginnings of a profitable business begin to reveal themselves.

9.30 **Whoops Apocalypse**: Sixth and final episode of this black comedy which explains the reasons for the world's being plunged into nuclear conflict. Tonight, the Quark bomb reaches its final resting place in a crematorium furnace in Israel (r).

10.00 **Cheers**: comedy series, set in a Boston bar. Coach (Nicholas Colicos) volunteers his name when a friend of Sam's says he needs a manager for his little league team.

10.30 **Well Being**: how we can improve our physical and mental health with and without the assistance of the medical profession. Tonight: is all this exercise business good for women? The bodybuilder Zoe Warwick is among those interviewed.

9.25 **Whicker**: Alan Whicker concentrates tonight on plastic surgery.

10.05 **Cricket**: **Third Test**, England (humiliated in the Second Test) faces New Zealand again.

10.35 **Newsnight**: bulletins and analysis.

11.20 **World Box**: first semi-final of the Embassy World Indoor Championship and highlights from the last of the quarter-finals.

11.55 **Whistle Test**: with Billy Bragg, Steve Nieve and Roland Young. Re-made (badly) in 1974, with Oliver Reed in the cast. Ends at 1.05.

1.00 **News**: from **ITV** and **ITV**.

1.30 **ITV**: **London News Headlines**.

1.45 **ITV**: **London Programme**.

2.00 **ITV**: **London**.

2.30 **ITV**: **London**.

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2.30 **ITV**: **London**.

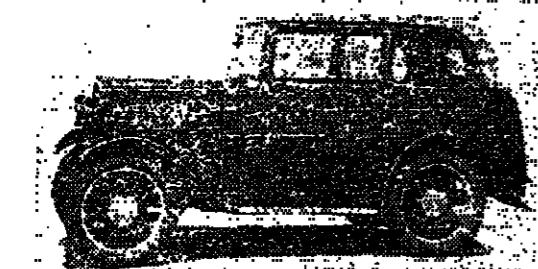
3.00 **ITV**: **London**.

3.30 **ITV**: **London**.

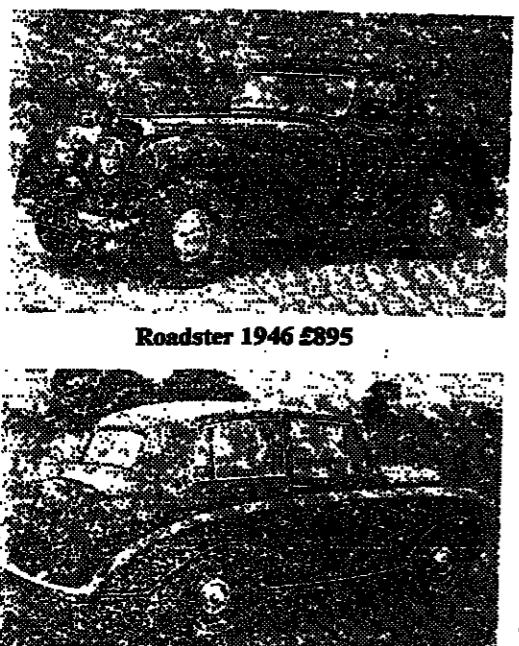
3.45 **ITV**: **London**.

4.00 **ITV**: **London**.

4.30 **ITV**: **London**.



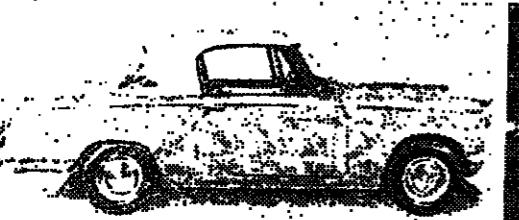
Super Seven 1927 £149 10s



Roadster 1946 £895



Mayflower 1950 £625



Herald 1959 £619

End of the road for cars sporting a Triumph badge

Plans by British Leyland to drop the Triumph label, probably this summer, will mark the end of a long line of bicycles, motor cycles and cars bearing the distinctive red and blue badge (David Cross writes).

The last model to carry the Triumph name, the successful Acclaim, is expected to be replaced by a revamped version with a Rover badge produced at Longbridge. Like the Honda-based Acclaim the new 1.3 and 1.5 litre models will be based on a Japanese design unveiled at the Tokyo motor show last autumn.

The Triumph company, best known for motor cycles and sports cars, started life exactly 100 years ago when a German, Herr Siegfried Detmann, arrived in London to work for the Kelly Road directory firm. But, taking advantage of the bicycle boom sweeping Europe, he exported bicycles manufactured in Birmingham under his own name.

When it became clear that Detmann was not a catch in Britain or on the continent he changed it to Triumph to make it more easily understood by non-German speakers.

In 1887, he was joined by Herr Maxiitz Schulte, a German engineer, and in 1888 they moved to Coventry, then the centre of the cycle industry, to set up their own manufacturing plant.

The two Germans first fitted an engine into a Triumph bicycle in 1902 and quickly built up an international reputation for motor cycle engineering, which continued until the demise of the Triumph motor cycle cooperative at Meriden last year.

The original company moved from the production of two to four-wheeled vehicles in 1923 with the building of a solid modern family sedan of American inspiration.

In the late 1920s it tried to enter the mass-produced economy car market with a Triumph Super Seven model, but it lacked the financial resources of the bigger manufacturers like Morris, Austin, Standard and Singer.

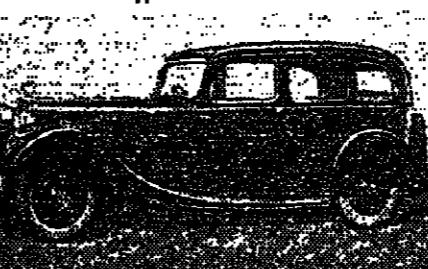
Despite financial problems which culminated in its liquidation in 1939, the company introduced several British engineering innovations, pioneering hydraulic brakes in 1925 and the factory-fitted windscreen washers in 1935.

After the Second World War the motor company, which had separated from the motor cycle division in 1936, was taken over by the Standard company which made Ferguson tractors under licence. Standard-Triumph produced medium and small family saloons, the best-known of which was the Mayflower.

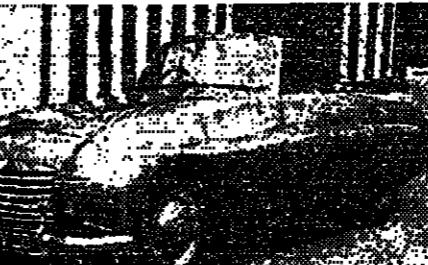
But it was not until the early 1950s, when it entered the sports car market with a long line of successful sports cars beginning with the TR2 that its reputation became truly international.

Financial problems dogged the company, in spite of the successful introduction of the Triumph Herald in 1959. It was taken over by Leyland Motors in 1961, the first car company to be acquired by the truck and bus firm. The new management introduced a range of Triumph models, including the Spitfire sports car in 1962, the 2000 saloon in 1963 and the Dolomite in 1972. But these have been replaced with models under the better-known and more successful badges of Austin and Rover.

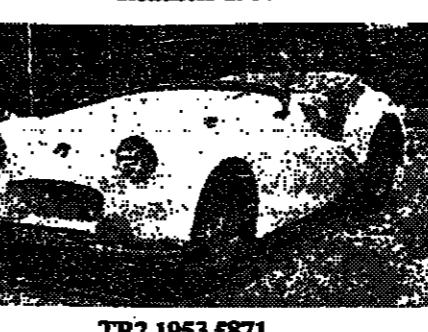
The captions show year of introduction and basic price of car, including tax.



Gloria 2-litre 1935 £340



Roadster 1950



TR2 1953 £871



TR6 1969 £1,333 19s 2d



Acclaim 1981 £4,688

Others 'may bid for Scots yard'

Continued from page 1

Scott Lithgow to get into the long-term business of manufacturing oil exploration and production systems, and we need the space and the work force", Trafalgar House added.

A key part of Trafalgar's recent acquisitions in the oil and North Sea industry - with the chairman, Mr Nigel Brookes's knack of buying undervalued assets - was the purchase from British Steel in 1982 of the Redpath Dorman Long steel fabricator, which it integrated with the Cleveland engineering activity. The two operations employ about 7,000 on Teesside and build large steel rig components.

Trafalgar said: "We have invested in R&D and it now employs more people than when we look over. We did not

sell any of the business or asset strip it in any way. We are interested in a permanent Scott Lithgow and in keeping it British."

Cunard, the Trafalgar subsidiary, has also been having discussions recently with British Shipbuilders' Swan Hunter yard over delays in the building of the £40m replacement for the Atlantic Conveyor, the container ship sunk in the Falklands war. British Shipbuilders faces huge penalty payments if the ship is late, but Trafalgar said last night that that had played no part in the Scott Lithgow negotiations.

Howard Doris, the Anglo-French rig builder based on Loch Kishorn on the Scottish west coast, had seen itself as a front runner in the race to acquire Scott Lithgow and

Union leaders are demanding talks with Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, to

acquire Scott Lithgow and

appear to be surprised by Trafalgar's announcement on Tuesday.

The 2,000 workers who walked out of Scott Lithgow yesterday were joined later by white-collar staff in what is believed will be a 24-hour stoppage.

The workforce was angry that the deal was being "rushed through" without consultation and with the prospect of 2,750 out of 3,500 employees losing their jobs.

The next move will be decided at a mass meeting today where there will be calls for occupation of the yard if the Trafalgar purchase is allowed to stand.

Union leaders are demanding talks with Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland,

Budget priority for personal tax relief

Continued from page 1

Abolition of or a cut in the national insurance surcharge to help industry seemed less likely.

With Mr Lawson's broad strategy of steady growth combined with low inflation and effective control of Government borrowing there was no argument.

The so-called "wets" such as Mr Peter Walker, and Mr James Prior believe that things are going much more their way. Indeed so bland were the proceedings that a Cabinet source was said to have found the meeting boring.

Mr Lawson did not commit himself to any specific measures but will not have been unhappy with the outcome.

But Mr Berri is riding a tiger, desperately trying to control his own militia, and Mr Gemayel

British civilians begin to leave Beirut chaos

Continued from page 1

Mr Nabil Berri, the Shia Muslim Amal militia leader, ordered gunmen off the streets of West Beirut and, however temporarily, did bring a considerable measure of order to the Muslim sector of the city

despite the civil war began, perhaps because he has nothing to say.

A chartered Middle East Airlines jet did manage to fly to Beirut airport yesterday to collect a sick woman, and militias men around the terminal permitted the aircraft to land.

American F-14 jets flew level with the aircraft sometimes 15ft from its wing tips, over the Mediterranean.

About 50 journalists were also on the aircraft. Asked who controlled the airport when he arrived, an American passenger replied: "I saw some people in uniforms but there were a lot of guys in leather jackets stamping passports."

Robert Fisk in Beirut

Law and order, Ruritanian style

Law and order came to West Beirut yesterday, courtesy of Mr Nabil Berri and his Shia Muslim militia. The police were ordered back on to the streets, and the gunmen were instructed to return to the front line.

When one recalcitrant militiaman chose to walk down Corniche Mazzra with his automatic rifle, he was promptly shot, "executed in the field", as one local newspaper put it in courtly fashion, for carrying a weapon in a public place.

If President Gemayel had used such methods to keep the law in West Beirut one could imagine the reaction. But things are a little different these days.

Even the Squad 16 Lebanese Internal Security Force was told by the militias to patrol the west of the city. And, sure enough, there they were yesterday, back in their familiar red berets and khaki uniforms with the Arabic numerals in gold on the cap badges, driving through the streets in their old grey Land-Rovers.

The shops reopened along Hamra Street, even the grotesquely expensive ladies' dress shops with last year's plunging necklines, which is not quite what the Islamic revolution is supposed to be about. Bar-owners were quietly told that Wednesday's drink-smashing session by Shia gunmen was an unfortunate excess that would not be repeated.

Fruit-sellers lounged on the kerbside and, during the sunny, dog-day afternoon, quite incredibly, a Middle East Airlines jet floated low over the roofs of the city and touched down at Beirut airport, courtesy once more of Mr Berri and his militias, right beside the astonished US Marine contingent of the now-defunct multinational force.

But, of course, things were not quite as they seemed in Mr Berri's little Ruritanian. The policemen, for instance, were real policemen but they were all unshaven. The reason was simple: when they are not policemen they are members of the Shia Amal militia, and no self-respecting gunman in Beirut would ever have a clean shave in the morning. A few have even sewn a small and discreet green and red Amal

badge on to their gaudier uniforms sleeves.

Now were the shopkeepers quite as confident as they looked. The petrol station owner down the Corniche was fingering ammunition into a brand-new submachine gun when I called for petrol during the afternoon.

"If those Phalangists try to come here there's going to be a massacre", he said. "No way are we going to let Gemayel get West Beirut back. The only soldiers we want are the ones who have come over to us."

He was a peaceful enough man, waving cheerfully to an Army deserter in a Marine uniform with an Islamic green scarf round his forehead, and inspecting the shotgun gash in the bonnet of *The Times*' faithful automobile with a twitting sympathy.

But then he added, in his best American: "Man, if the Phalangists try to come in here, you'd better keep your head in the sand."

The Americans proved to be those most curiously affected by the sudden shift in their status here. Yesterday morning, for instance, the Marine guards outside the British Embassy, where American diplomats are based, cheerfully permitted Druse militiamen holding Soviet-made AK47 rifles to wander inside the compound security zone. They were talking together like old friends.

But when American journalists brandishing American can passports turned up to visit their own Embassy personnel, the Marines soundly ordered them to leave.

Asked why American reporters and photographers could not visit their Embassy compound when gunmen and Amal militiamen were clanking to it, Mr John Stewart, the Embassy's bespectacled press officer, uttered what might turn out to be one of the more memorable statements of President Reagan's debacle in Lebanon: "It's not because your camera is dangerous", he said. "It's because some people might consider the results - the reactions to the photographs - might be dangerous or damaging to foreign policy, or something like that."

Marines talk to gunmen, it seems, but not on camera.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh visits ERA Technology Ltd, Leatherhead, Surrey, 11.

Princess Alexandra attends the "Kids 'n' Cops" Charity Concert, in aid of the Townhead Youth Club, Fulham Old Town Hall, SW6, 7.20.

New exhibitions

Images: new paintings and drawings by David Napp, Philip Brown, Shaun Carey and Susan

Palin: Royal Museum, Canterbury, Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until Feb 24).

New London exhibitions

The Magic Country: nineteenth and twentieth century children's illustrated books; Church Farm House Museum, Greyswood Hill, Hendon, NW1; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, 2 to 3.30, Tues 10 to 1, Sun 2 to 5.30.

Paintings by Brumihilde Grasser; Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, NW3; Mon to Tues 10 to 5, Sun 11 to 5, Sat 1 to 6, closed Weds (until March 25).

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Paintings, drawings and sculpture by Leonard McComb; Gallery of Modern Art, 81 Princess Street, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until March 3).

The Other Britain: an exhibition celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Society of Painter-Carvers, Stafford Museum and Art Gallery, The Green, Stafford; Tues to Fri 1 to 5, Sat 1 to 4, closed Sun and Mon (until March 10).

The Nature of Painting (1): Light, an exhibition exploring the painter's use of light, rhythm and imagery; recent works by Rama Jana and Michael Whitehead; Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton; Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, closed Wed and Sun (until March 5).

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